



SHIFT BRIEFING



FALL PROTECTION – AERIAL LIFTS

This department utilizes aerial lifts and bucket trucks [Identity Equipment & Vehicles the Department Owns or Leases] for a variety of tasks, including [List Jobs].

Ask: What Hazards Exist When Using Aerial Lifts?

Answer: falls, objects falling from the lifts, tip-overs, ejections from the lift platform, structural failures (collapses), electric shock (electrocutions), entanglement hazard, contact with objects, and contact with ceiling and other overhead objects.

Only trained and authorized persons are permitted to operate an aerial lift.

Before using any aerial device or vehicle, operators must inspect the vehicle and aerial boom, platform, and basket. This should be completed before leaving the Department facility. You can use the vehicle inspection forms for the truck, but you will also need to verify that the aerial lift and all its components are in good condition and operating properly. Be sure to check the controls both in the basket and the remote controls where on the vehicle. If you are not sure of any of the inspection procedures, check the owners' manual, located [Tell Where it is Located]

Check the weather forecast. High winds, heavy rains, snowstorms, and similar conditions may make using aerial devices too hazardous. It is our policy that the aerial may not be used to fill in wind conditions, etc. Check your owners' manuals.

When You Reach the Work Site

Inspect the ground where the vehicle or aerial device will be set up. It must be firm and stable. Be sure to look for conditions such as drop-offs, holes, unstable surfaces such as ice or snow, severe slopes, ditches, bumps, debris, and floor obstructions if working indoors.

Inspect the area for overhead hazards such as inadequate ceiling heights, overhead electric power lines, communication cables (stay at least 10 feet away), overhead fixtures, and others. Be sure to consider the use of tools when checking for clearances. For example, if you will be using a 10-foot pole saw, you must stay 20 feet from electrical power lines.

Lastly, evaluate the area around the operation for pedestrian traffic and vehicle traffic. Set up cones and warning signs. If you will be working on a public road, be sure to refer to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control for the necessary traffic control devices and plans.

Set up the aerial device as directed by the owner's manual. Set the brake and place chocks at the wheels of the vehicle. Use outriggers when provided and possible. Use plates for the feet of the outriggers when possible.

The use of fall protection is required. Follow the manufacturer's recommendation for fall protection for each aerial lift. Fall protection includes but is not limited to:

- Ensure the access gates or openings are closed,
- Stand firmly on the floor of the bucket or lift platform, do not climb or lean over the guardrails or handrails,
- Use a body harness or a restraining belt with a lanyard attached to the boom or bucket
- DO NOT anchor to adjacent structures or poles while in the bucket.

Are There Any Questions?