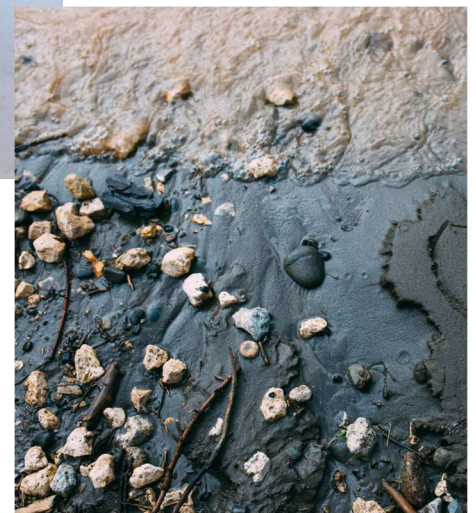


Emergency Drill Resources

Ideas for Monthly Emergency Drills



BC Forest Safety

Safety is **good** business

1) Introduction

Reviewing emergency response procedures in a non-emergency situation is critical to ensure the plan works and everyone knows their role and expectations. Under times of stress, when every minute counts, forest workers should be confident putting the Emergency Response Plan (ERP) into action.

Testing out ERPs in a variety of settings helps workers, supervisors and first aid attendants keep their skills sharp. Drills also provide an opportunity to practice which helps lower response times and improves the effectiveness of emergency plans.

Drill Best Practices:

- Adapt scenarios to make them as realistic as possible. Drills work best when held on the worksite, using the equipment and people who may be involved in an emergency situation.
- With a larger group, it is helpful to have some workers act as observers to watch and record the actions. Conduct a debrief afterwards to allow participants and observers to provide feedback on successes and areas that require improvement.
- Assign team members to make the necessary changes to the ERP. Follow up with everyone once changes have been implemented.
- During the drill, test out the emergency phone numbers to ensure they are still correct for the work area. Inform the operator that you are testing the system.
- You may want to involve your aerial or ground transport providers in the drill. They can provide helpful insight on their capabilities in an emergency.
- Radio communication may be challenging in some areas. A drill can help identify if alternate communication is necessary.

2) Monthly Drill Ideas

The BC Forest Safety Council have developed a series of drills that you may wish to use for testing your company Emergency Response Plans. Scenarios can be developed to test out your medical, environmental, fire, weather or other emergency responses. Included with the scenario is debrief information which highlights aspects of your safety program that may be impacted by the event. Following a drill, review these and other identified aspects of your safety program to continually improve your operations.

Medical Emergency Drill Examples:

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Field workers	Exposure, hypothermia	Worker
Mechanic/shop	Distressed, aggressive casualty with foreign body in arm	Worker
Truck Driver	Slips, trips and falls; soft tissue injury	Worker
Harvesting	Night-time, operator found unresponsive in machine	Worker
Truck Driver	Truck roll-over, head injury, refusal of care	Supervisor
Manual Falling	Spinal injury, remote location, poor weather	Worker
Harvesting	Fire on the block, heart attack	Supervisor
Field worker	Exposure, heat exhaustion	Worker
All; crew transport	Fatigued driver rolls crew vehicle, multiple injuries	Workers
Equipment Operator	Sprains/strained, MSI, early onset tendonitis	Worker
Harvesting	Supervisor becomes agitated & slurs words, stroke	Supervisor
Manual Falling	Progressed infection, patient unwilling to see medical aid	Supervisor

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Field workers	Exposure and hypothermia	Worker
<p>A supervisor on a timber cruising crew gets a radio call from a worker complaining of being too cold to continue the day. She is shivering uncontrollably and her fingers and toes are cold and stiff. It is a clear, cold (-22 degrees plus the wind-chill) day and the crew is working 60 kms up the resource road. The supervisor begins heading over to the workers. 10 minutes later the other worker in the crew gets on the radio and announces they have started to walk out, but fallen. He is angry and his speech is slurred. It is a 20 minute snowshoe back out to the snowmobiles and a 25 min ride back to the trucks. There are 2 other crew members on the block.</p> <p>Debrief: Be sure to review signs and symptoms of hypothermia, contributing factors and preventative strategies for avoiding hypothermia, review variables such as amount of remaining daylight, available first aid resources, crew interaction and personal safety gear when working in remote, winter conditions.</p>		

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Mechanic/shop	Distressed, aggressive casualty with foreign body in arm	Worker
<p>It's the end of the day, while working at the shop located in town the head mechanic is pressing a track pin into place. Suddenly a piece of the pin comes off and lodges into the mechanic's forearm. It is seeping blood and lodged approx. 1" into the arm, it is not apparent if it has hit an artery. The mechanic gets angry and agitated while attempting to remove the piece of metal himself.</p> <p>Debrief: Summoning first aid, decisions around availability and use of local health care facilities, first aid equipment – is it sufficient for the types of injuries expected in the shop, use of PPE & appropriate clothing, strategies for dealing with distressed patients, company policies around injuries & reporting.</p>		

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Truck Driver	Slips, trips and falls; soft tissue injury	Worker
<p>It's mid-March, right before break up and the melt is starting to play havoc with the roads. A company logging truck driver starting his shift at 430 am gets out of his truck to wrap his load. As he is throwing his wrappers he loses his footing on the ice and falls. Another truck driver sees this and lets the supervisor know. The driver is at the scales on his third load when the first aider approaches him to ask how he's doing. The driver admits he felt a twinge in his back when it happened but he picked himself up and carried on. He says his tailbone hurts and his back is stiff but insists he's fine. He says he will return at the end of the day to get checked out but as he gets back into his truck it is evident he has restricted movement.</p> <p>Debrief: Discuss the implications of a worker refusing first aid or withholding information about symptoms, how would the report be filed? What follow up could the first aider or supervisor do? Discuss soft tissue injuries, prevention and self-care. Discuss the environmental factors that may have contributed and how to avoid slips, trips and falls on slippery surfaces.</p>		

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Harvesting	Night-time, operator found unresponsive in machine	Worker
<p>It has been an uneventful night shift on a nearly completed block about an hour west of town. About halfway between a scheduled check-in, another buncher operator notices his co-workers machine is not moving. She attempts radio communication but gets no response. After alerting the other workers on site she goes to the equipment and finds the operator slumped in their seat, unconscious. There is a faint pulse but the operator is pale and cool.</p> <p>Debrief: Training – First aid review for unresponsive person, ETV access and availability, issues of transporting a worker from the machine to the road, contacting</p>		

healthcare providers, ambulance travel on resource roads, internal company communications to family/emergency contacts, issues of visibility at night, company check in procedures, possible fatality response.

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Truck Driver	Truck roll-over, head injury and refusal of care	Worker
<p>A logging supervisor headed out to the site comes across a truck roll over that has just occurred. The truck was empty and traveling at a slow speed when it left the road and rolled once coming to a rest in an upright position. As the driver climbed out of the truck, a thermos falls from the cab and his log book spills out onto the ground scattering paper. Flustered, he scurries to retrieve it and as the supervisor approaches he notices a cut on the driver's forehead and a bruise rapidly forming on his right hand. The driver refuses to sit down and claims he does not need first aid.</p> <p>Debrief: First Aid Procedures and mechanism of injury, potential for spinal injuries, how to deal with uncooperative patients, review of safe driving procedures, discuss driver inattention and distraction, hazard of loose objects in vehicles, incident scene safety and securing damaged vehicles.</p>		

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Manual Falling	Spinal injury, remote location and poor weather	Worker
<p>A crew of fallers are working a tricky section near the backline of a block. Together with the supervisor, they discussed a plan and then resumed their individual work. About 10 minutes later there is a distress call over the radio. A setback tree pivoted and knocked a faller backwards, pinning him to another tree. Upon arriving at the scene, the crew quickly and safely removes the tree. The faller is complaining of back pain and numbness in his legs. The supervisor decides a medical evacuation is required but the weather has closed in and a helicopter cannot access their location.</p> <p>Debrief: Safe falling procedures, emergency communications, first aid procedures for spinal injuries, medical evacuation plans for helicopter and ground transportation.</p>		

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Harvesting	Fire on the block and heart attack	Supervisor
<p>The loader operator is just finishing loading his last truck when he notices smoke coming from the top of the block. The fire quickly spreads uphill and into the standing timber. The loader operator radios his supervisor about the situation. The truck driver and loader operator grab some shovels and head up the hill to fight the fire. Half-way up the hill, the truck driver starts to feel ill and has sharp pains shooting down his arm. The supervisor arrives and has to deal with two emergencies.</p> <p>Debrief: Review of Emergency Response Plan relating to wildfire, inspection of fire tools, heart attack signs and symptoms, review CPR, basics of fire behaviour, required information when reporting a wildfire, emergency communication.</p>		

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Field worker	Exposure and heat exhaustion	Worker
<p>It has been a long and hot day for the silviculture surveyor and there were still two more blocks to go. There is no shade on any of the blocks and it doesn't take long for the worker to start feeling sick and fatigued. Soon, the surveyor radios to his coworkers that he needs some help. When they find him, he is pale, clammy, feels nauseous and is confused about his location.</p> <p>Debrief: Signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion and heat stroke, first aid and cooling techniques, working alone procedures, emergency communications, proper hydration and clothing for work in hot weather.</p>		

Sector	Scenario	Involves
All, crew transport	Fatigued driver rolls crew vehicle and multiple injuries	Workers
<p>It has been a long ten day shift and the crew jumps into the crummy for the 2 hour drive back home. The driver fights to stay awake as all his passengers fall asleep one by one. The driver nods off and suddenly the truck is off the road and rolls several times. The passengers have multiple injuries and some witnesses stop to help out. Injuries include a concussion, broken arm, and suspected broken ribs with difficulty breathing.</p> <p>Debrief: Discussion on driver fatigue and impairment, safe driving procedures, first aid procedures for roll-over accidents, triage procedures for multiple injuries, emergency communication, incident scene safety with a focus on hazards from other vehicles.</p>		

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Equipment Operator	Sprains, MSI and early onset tendonitis	Worker
<p>The processor operator has been taking more and more breaks during the day to give his wrist a break. The new machine is great but he is just not used to it yet. Break up is just around the corner, he'll be able to rest then. His supervisor notices that he's not been productive lately and asks what's going on.</p> <p>Debrief: Tendonitis signs and symptoms, first aid treatment for MSI's, equipment ergonomics, injury management and modified duties, equipment operator stretching and exercises, WorkSafeBC reporting – benefits and requirements.</p>		

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Harvesting	Supervisor becomes agitated and slurs words, stroke	Supervisor
<p>The dry sort supervisor meets his crew for the monthly safety meeting. The supervisor, who usually is joking around and talking with his crew, is pretty quiet this morning. He looks a bit confused as he stands up to start the meeting. He can't find his notes and this is making him angry. When he talks, he is slurring his words. The first aid attendant notices that the one side of his face is drooping.</p> <p>Debrief: Stroke signs and symptoms, first aid procedures for stroke, inspect first aid equipment, Rapid Transportation Category patients.</p>		

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Manual Falling	Progressed infection and patient unwilling to see medical aid	Supervisor
<p>The supervisor notices the red lines on the faller's arm on the drive out to the block. The faller did mention that he tripped and fell last week but nothing about the arm. "Just a small poke with a stick, nothing to worry about", says the faller. The Bullbucker suspects it's infected but the faller doesn't want to see the first aid attendant.</p> <p>Debrief: Signs, symptoms and care of infected wounds, first aid procedures for minor injuries, first aid reporting and documentation, review transportation to medical aid procedure for minor injuries, dealing with uncooperative workers.</p>		

Non-Medical Emergency Drills:

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Harvesting	Fuel spill	Worker
Silviculture	Wildfire	Worker
Harvesting	Hydraulic spill into stream	Worker
Trucking	Wet weather shut down	Worker
Field worker	Missed check-in	Supervisor

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Harvesting	Fuel spill on resource road	Worker
<p>A pick-up towing a fuel tank on a trailer, takes a corner too quickly and the trailer overturns. Diesel fuel spills out of a hole in the tank and into the ditch. You arrive on the scene and see that no-one is injured but this is a busy road and no-one seems to know what to do about the spill.</p> <p>Debrief: Spill control and clean up, spill kit equipment checks, resource road safety, trailer handling tips, traffic control and radio communication when there is an incident on a resource road.</p>		

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Silviculture	Wildfire	Worker
<p>After a long ATV ride into the block, a worker transporting seedlings notices some smoke coming from the trail that they just used. They have a crew of planters on this block and some basic fire tools back at the trucks.</p> <p>Debrief: Wildfire safety and reporting, communication on remote worksites, fire tool use and inspection, ATV safety.</p>		

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Harvesting	Hydraulic oil spill into stream	Worker
<p>A mechanic is doing some work on an excavator beside a stream and a large hose bursts. Some of the oil gets into the stream.</p> <p>Debrief: Spill control and clean up, reporting limits for spills, safety when doing maintenance including lock out.</p>		

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Trucking	Wet weather shutdown	Worker
<p>A log truck driver is heading out for her first trip of the day. It has been raining all night and the block is located in a steep, challenging area. The driver knows that they usually shut down when there is heavy rainfall but hasn't heard anything from her supervisor or the other drivers. The driver observes high stream flows and minor flooding.</p> <p>Debrief: Wet weather shutdown criteria, communication procedures, risk assessment and refusal of unsafe work, landslide and flooding safety.</p>		

Sector	Scenario	Involves
Field Work	Missed check-in	Worker and Supervisor
<p>A crew of 2 layout engineers splits up so they can finish their project before the end of the day. They are laying out a block in a remote location that took an hour to walk into. They both carry radios and agree to check in with each other every hour. Near the end of the day, one of the engineers cannot be contacted. The other worker isn't exactly sure where they are located so they call the supervisor on the satellite phone to find out what to do.</p> <p>Debrief: Emergency procedures for missing people, check-in frequency, emergency evacuation from remote worksites, satellite phone and radio communication limitations.</p>		