



#8 CHOCKING WHEELS

Talk Leader Instructions:

This is background information ONLY. Be sure to customize to your operation and facilities.

- ✓ Print copies of this sheet for yourself and each of the participants.
- ✓ Lead a discussion with your workers about the materials on this sheet at a location that is appropriate to the topic. Be sure to give real life examples whenever possible.
- ✓ Be open to questions.
- ✓ Conclude with a brief review of the main points or a summary based on the discussion.
- ✓ Fill in your operation name, location and the date on your sheet. Have each worker sign your sheet to confirm their attendance.
- ✓ File your sheet in your worker training records to document the training experience.

WORK ACTIVITY

The primary principal in chocking wheels is to prevent movement. A 'chock' is a wedge for steadying an object and holding it motionless, or for preventing the movement of a wheel.

BACKGROUND

Crush points are created when two objects move toward each other or one object moves toward a stationary one. For example, you would create a potential crush point if you fail to chock a wagon's wheels before you unhitch it from a tractor. The wagon could roll toward the tractor and potentially crush you as you unhitch the wagon.

PROCEDURE

The task of hitching or unhitching farm equipment such as wagons is often overlooked as a source of severe injuries and deaths. The main hazard is being caught between the tractor/truck and the wagon. Avoid moving the tractor when there is a person between it and the wagon. Back the tractor past the hitch point with your helper at a safe distance, then inch forward, away from the wagon, to align the hitch holes. With this method, if the clutch grabs or something else should go wrong, the tractor will move away from your helper. A sliding wagon tongue can help to speed hitching and reduce hitching hazards, since exact alignment of the hitch holes can be done with the tongue rather than the tractor.

If you are hitching the wagon by yourself, make sure the parking brake is on and the tractor is in park or in gear with the engine off before leaving the seat. Don't try to rock the tractor or the load by hand; it may move much farther than you expect.

When you unhitch a wagon, be sure that it is on level ground. Chock the wagon's wheels before unhitching, even if the ground appears to be level. Don't pull the hitch pin if it's hard to remove because the wagon may roll forward and crush you against the tractor.

KEY POINTS

- ✓ Before dismounting a tractor, prevent potential movement of the tractor by ensuring it is in park or neutral with the brakes fully applied.
- ✓ Chock wheels at the rear axle. Tires may need to be chocked in both the front and the rear on some equipment to prevent injury if a roll back occurs.
- ✓ Chock all wheels on articulated vehicles to stop them twisting sideways. (cont'd on page 2)



#8 CHOCKING WHEELS PAGE 2

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KEY POINTS (cont'd from page 1)

- ✓ Do not unhook farm equipment that has not been chocked.
- ✓ Use substantial wooden chocks rather than unstable rocks.
- ✓ Never put hands between equipment and chocks.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES / CONTACTS

If you are experiencing problems, call your supervisor.

In case of emergency, call 911 or your local emergency services, then call your supervisor.

MORE RESOURCES

Farm Equipment http://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/pubs/farming/gl_equipment.php

COMMENTS / SUGGESTIONS:

Operation Name _____

Location _____

Meeting Leader _____

Date _____

TOOLBOX TALK PARTICIPANTS

Print name _____ Signature _____

Print name _____ Signature _____

Print name _____ Signature _____

Print name _____ Signature _____

Print name _____ Signature _____