



BECAUSE SAFETY MATTERS.
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Five to Stay Alive

Safety Tips for Composting Operations

1. **Wear appropriate PPE and respiratory protection**

Do not begin a task without having the proper training and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). There are a number of respiratory protection options; make sure you are using the option best suited to your task. If you're unsure, ask your supervisor.

2. **Maintain situational awareness**

Be vigilant of mobile equipment and changing site conditions. Always give heavy equipment the right of way. Make eye contact and obtain permission from operators before approaching equipment.

3. **Stay out of the danger zones in front of and behind windrow turners**

The flails and augers on windrow turners spin at several hundred rpm, and routinely throw material forwards and backwards from the turner. Rocks, large pieces of wood and other heavy objects in the windrows can be turned into projectiles that travel dozens of feet.

4. **Good housekeeping prevents accidents and nuisance conditions**

Slips, trips or falls can result from poorly maintained operations. Watch out for spilled debris, loose material and slippery spots.

5. **Follow lock out/tag out always!**

No matter how quick or seemingly simple the task, always follow LOTO procedures.

SWANA wants you to go home to your family every day, safely. So, of course, never use a cell phone or text while operating machinery or moving around composting operations.

Following these rules will help keep you safe!

For more #SWANAsafety info and resources: SWANA.org/safety