




Compost Truck Operation

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Purpose:

To provide direction and guidance to staff on the acceptable processes involved with the operation of the City of Prince Albert Compost truck during seasonal operations.

Inspection:

Each day prior to beginning the work process the truck, PPE and fall protection equipment is to be inspected to ensure safe and efficient operation. This includes inspecting:

1. Fall protection harnesses for defects and proper fitting.
2. Fall protection lanyards for defects.
3. PPE (hard hat, safety footwear, safety coveralls, gloves)
4. Completing a pre-trip documented inspection of the truck as per the requirements of current legislation to the standards as outlined in NSC Daily Vehicle trip inspection and Schedule 1 as incorporated into the front pages of the Operators vehicle daily inspection report. All information is to be recorded on the form for that day in the manner required on the form and any issues are to be reported to the supervisor.
5. Completing a post trip inspection at the end of the day and recording the end mileage on that days form along with a walk around inspection of the truck. Completed forms are to be submitted to the supervisor along with attendance reports.

Truck Operation:

At all times the truck is to be operated in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and all legislation including speed, seat belt usage, phone usage etc. is to be followed. In addition all safety requirements are to be followed including this SWP and available warning devices are to be utilized (i.e. 4 way flashers, etc.). Additional requirements when staff are harnessed to the back of the truck include:

1. Operator must ensure that workers on the back are fully harnessed and secured prior to moving the vehicle.
2. Speed is limited to a max. of 20 kph at all times workers are on the back of the truck. If additional hazards warrant (i.e. narrow pathway from trees) this speed is to be reduced even further.

3. Operator must stop at all intersections and ensure it is safe to cross the intersection. This includes the end of alleys on each block.
4. Operation is prohibited on any arterial roads including all numbered highways, Central Avenue, 2nd Avenue West, 6th Avenue West, 6th Avenue East, 15th Avenue East, 15th Street, Marquis Road, 28th Street, 22nd Street with staff on the back of the truck. This condition also applies on any surfaces in which the traffic count at the time of operation is moderate or higher. Staff can only ride on the back of the truck when traffic counts are low in the area.
5. Operation is prohibited during severe weather in the area (i.e. thunderstorm) with riders on the outside of the vehicle.

Heat:

At times during the summer months conditions may be encountered in which heat related issues may be of concern. To alleviate these conditions all staff are expected to ensure they have an adequate supply of cold drinking water with them and hydrate as necessary. They should also ensure that they dress appropriately for the conditions ensuring that all PPE is worn and that outer clothing is in accordance with the approved standard.

In addition to this staff has the ability to pace themselves in consideration of the work demands and significance of heat each day. On very hot days workers should enter the air conditioned cab for a cool break when travelling on arterial roads and back to the landfill to empty and can consider getting in and out for each pickup to limit heat exposure. Generally these breaks in the air conditioned cab will provide sufficient respite from the heat as per the requirements of the OHS legislation.

Any staff member can request a test be performed to determine if additional cool breaks are required, but must realize that cool breaks does not mean no work is performed during the break and that the measurements required consider a number of factors to which the temperature is only one. Staff are advised to consult the chart in the pocket OHS orientation booklet which will be followed but is usually not triggered at the same time as Environment Canada Heat warnings.

Truck Loaders:

All truck loaders are required to comply with this SWP along with training and other related policy, procedures and practices that apply to the work process. If possible and multiple licenced drivers are available that day for this process consideration should be given to rotating drivers and loaders to allow for variety and to spread around the workload. This can be accomplished in discussions with the crew.

Additional requirements for the loaders include:

1. Only compost material that meets the current standards is to be picked up. This includes the weight of the bag, the type of tree trimmings or other requirements that may be established by the manager.
2. When working on arterial streets as described in section 4 of truck operation, for street side pickup loaders must either walk between pick up locations or enter the cab of the truck and seatbelt themselves in.
3. At no time are the loaders permitted to “J walk” across streets to obtain bags on the opposite side than what they are working on.
4. When riding on the back of the truck for front street pickups with a single loader. The loader will be positioned on the passenger side.
5. Prior to the truck moving loaders will secure themselves to the lanyard ensure both feet are securely positioned and then signal the driver that it is safe to proceed. The loader will not detach until the truck has stopped moving at the next pick up location.