

Safety News

**WORK SAFE INFO
FROM THE
SNOHOMISH COUNTY
SAFETY OFFICE**

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ACCIDENTS ARE AVOIDABLE

Each time someone is injured, we need to ask ourselves “how did it happen?” But really, accidents don’t just happen, they are caused. Accidents are usually a result of someone not paying full attention, not following safe work procedures or not knowing how to recognize a job (or home or automobile) safety hazard. The following are some general rules to follow, plus the four hazard avoidance rules which help maintain a safe work environment and encourage safe work habits:

GENERAL RULES:

- Learn the safest way to do your job
- Follow established work procedures
- Keep your work area free from debris
- Use personal protective equipment indicated for the job
- Use the right tool for the right job
- Be sure all tools are in good shape
- Make sure you know how to use all tools safely



Lack of knowledge or inattention led to the “accident” re-created above



Do the task right and there is no accident

4 HAZARD AVOIDANCE RULES:

1. Know the safe way to work, and then follow the safe way all the time.
2. Maintain safe working conditions – for yourself and others working around you.
3. Work safely, setting the example, and encourage others to do so as well.
4. Report all accidents and near misses.



Remember to ask yourself “Am I following the general and hazard avoidance rules?” If you aren’t, then you are taking a chance that you will have or cause an accident. Consider ways to make your work safer so that you and your co-workers can avoid any serious accidents.

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