

# VLR SAFETY TAILGATE TALK

February 2016

*Subject: Snow Plow Safety*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Location (garage, mm, etc...):

Instructions:

Safety Coordinators & Supervisors should use this Tailgate Talk as a guide for discussion during their safety meetings. The primary purpose of the safety meetings is to give crews the opportunity to discuss any safety related concerns they may have.

Once the meeting has concluded, the Presenter should have each employee sign this form and include their Employee ID# in the spaces below.

TGT Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Employee
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Snow plow safety is something that every plow driver must be aware of. The blowing, drifting snow mixed with the slick pavement provides for hazardous conditions. So how can you safely make sure that you or others are not harmed during this process?

- Be aware of your surroundings and know your route. Always make sure you know what possible obstacles are within your plowing area like mailboxes, fences, signs, posts, et. This can save damage to property and to your plow,
- Always be tolerant and patient of other drivers or pedestrians around you. Imagine yourself in their shoes; seeing a huge truck driving toward you with a plow on the front is not always the most pleasant thing.
- Watch your speed! This is a **huge mistake** many plow drivers make when going about their jobs. In fact, many of the accidents involving snow plows are created because the driver was going too fast for the weather conditions. It might be desired to get the job done faster, but it is not worth the injuries to your body, other people and property.
- Make sure you are constantly keeping an eye out for ice or obstacles. It is also helpful to know the road and weather conditions before leaving.
- Obey all traffic laws (i.e. wearing your seatbelt at all times). This will save lots of trouble with law enforcement and could save your life in the event of an accident.

*Continued.*

- Before leaving the vehicle after you have done your job, cut off all power to the snow plow and spreader.
- Get a good night's rest before going out to plow. Although this is sometimes impossible to do, make sure that you are not feeling too drowsy or sleepy. Falling asleep at the wheel is obviously a devastating mistake,

Plow operators serve the community well during some of the worst weather. However, it is important the EVERYONE, including you the plow operator, gets home safely in the snow.

TGT Presenter,

Take this time to go over some safety items as they relate to winter maintenance safety.

VTTC  
SAFETY