

# MAFES Dawg Tracks



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Safety Tips: Eye Protection



Did you know that there are 1,000 eye injuries in the workplace in the U.S. every day? These same injuries account for over \$3,000,000.00 each year in medical, lost production and workers' compensation costs.

- Three out of every five injuries are a result of workers not wearing eye protection at the time of their accident.
- Approx. 40% were wearing eye protection, but it was wrong. It failed to furnish the protection required. The leading cause being no side shields.
- Approx. 70% were caused by flying objects and sparks.
- 60% of the objects causing the eye injuries were small than a pinhead.
- 20% of all eye injuries are caused by chemicals. This includes splashing or chemicals being sprayed directly into the eye.

## IDEAS FOR INJURY PREVENTION -

- Make sure that you select the proper type of eye protection for the job that you will be performing.
- Make sure that your selection of eye protection fits properly and is clean.
- Management should make sure that equipment that presents a potential hazard is checked regularly for the proper guards and shields to be in place.
- Be assured that the eye equipment is appropriate for the potential hazard.
- The safety glasses should be approved by the American National Standards Institute-Standard Z-78.1.
- Develop safe work methods to prevent eye injuries.
- Follow up with employees to make sure that they are using eye protection for jobs that require it.

## TYPES OF PROTECTIVE EYEWEAR AVAILABLE -

- Prescription or non-prescription safety glasses
- Goggles
- Face Shields
- Welding helmets
- Full-face respirators

The type of eye protection you wear depends upon the job that you have been assigned to do. In agricultural work, such as harvesting corn, beans or wheat, prescription or non-prescription eyeglasses with side protectors would satisfy most of needs. In shops, naturally, goggles or a welders' helmet should be worn.

## TYPES OF SAFETY LENSES AVAILABLE -

- Glass Lenses –
  - ~Not easily scratched
  - ~Can be used around harsh chemicals
  - ~Can be made in individual corrective prescription
  - ~Sometimes are heavy and uncomfortable
- Plastic Lenses –
  - ~Light weight
  - ~Protects against welding splatter
  - ~Not as likely to fog up
  - ~Not as scratch-resistant as glass
- Polycarbonate lenses –
  - ~Lightweight
  - ~Protects against welding splatter
  - ~Not as likely to fog up
  - ~Stronger than plastic or glass
  - ~More impact resistant than plastic or glass
  - ~Not as scratch resistant as plastic or glass

## FIRST AID FOR EYE EMERGENCIES -

- Chemical Burns – Immediately flush the eye with water. Keep the eye open and flush for 15 minutes or more. Do not use an eye cup. Do not assume that the eye injury is harmless. If you have a doubt, get to the emergency room.
- Specks of trash in the eye – Do not rub the eye. Try to let tears naturally wash them out. If the speck doesn't wash out, bandage it and get medical help.
- Blows – apply a cold compress without putting much pressure on it. In case of pain, get medical help.
- Cuts – Do wash the eye with any kind of liquid. Do not remove the object from the eye. Cover the eye with a rigid shield and get medical help.

**~EYES ARE PRICELESS~  
EYE PROTECTION IS CHEAP!**

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**SAFE ACTIONS BRING LASTING  
SATISFACTION!!**

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