

TOOL BOX TALKS

Dumpster Safety

Dumpster areas are safety concerns because they're the holding area for large amounts of waste, much of which can be sharp, heavy and awkward. Also, animals can "hold their ground" in dumpster areas. Dumpster areas can also be security concerns, as persons can hide in these areas. Oftentimes dumpster areas are not secured and are poorly lit. Review these safety tips with employees that are responsible for loading dumpsters.

DUMPSTER SAFETY BASICS

- Keep dumpster area doors closed & locked.
- Maintain dumpster area door latches.
- Keep dumpster lids closed to minimize waste escape, animals & prevent fire.
- Don't allow smoking in dumpster areas.
- If possible, don't place dumpsters against buildings, as a dumpster fire can catch the building on fire!
- Don't overload trash bags and boxes; you must lift these items high up or overhead. Prevent shoulder and back injuries by minimizing weight.
- When assisting the trash service, stay out from in between the refuse truck and dumpster.
- Wear gloves when handling trash bags, boxes & while opening and closing dumpster lids.
- Regularly clean dumpster areas to prevent fires.
- If dumpster areas are lit, make sure bulbs are replaced promptly if a light goes out.
- Consider security with cameras in dumpster areas.

KEEP
DUMPSTER
AREAS
CLEAN &
WELL LIT



PARKING LOT SAFETY

Look left and right.
Throw down plenty of ice melt in the winter.
Observe the dumpster area before entering and make sure nobody is hiding in the area.
Use the "buddy system" (two people) if going to the dumpster at night.
Wear a reflective vest – cars may not see you.

THIS
DUMPSTER
AREA IS A FIRE
HAZARD!

KEEP
DUMPSTER
AREAS
CLEANED UP!



BE CAREFUL IN
THE PARKING
LOT –
REMEMBER
THAT DRIVERS
ARE
DISTRACTED!

