

Section III - Dump Truck Operator Training

This portion is written for you, the operator whose responsibility includes the operation and maintenance of a dump truck.

You are expected to know enough about the truck, which you operate, to recognize mechanical defects and



Single Axle Dump Truck

avoid the many abuses of a careless or uninformed operator. You should practice preventative maintenance which may include making minor mechanical adjustments and keeping the equipment clean.

Safety Rules

Preventing accidents involving equipment completely depends on the person operating the equipment. **No equipment, regardless of the type or purpose is safer than the operator. Avoiding situations that may produce accidents is solely up to you, the person at the controls.** A careful operator is the most effective safety device.

To help prevent accidents, observe the following safety rules at all times:

1. Become well acquainted with the equipment. Know the location and function of all controls, gauges, and warning devices.
2. Ensure that all drivers and passengers wear seat belts.
3. Obey the instructions on warning decals located in areas of possible danger.
4. Perform a thorough pre-operation inspection before driving any department equipment.
5. Be sure no one is under or around the truck before you start.
6. Clean your shoes of slippery materials to prevent slipping on steps, or off foot pedals.
7. Always face the truck when mounting and dismounting. Never jump from any equipment.
8. Always maintain a firm grip on the hand holds while entering or leaving the truck.
9. Keep the cab free of debris.

10. Keep windshield, windows, and mirrors clean at all times.
11. Check all controls to be sure they are operating correctly and are properly adjusted before you leave.
12. Yield the right-of-way even if it's yours. Drive defensively.
13. Obey all state and local traffic regulations at all times.
14. Always drive at a speed that permits full control of the vehicle and allow for factors like road, weather, and traffic conditions.
15. Don't have loose articles in the cab that may interfere with your complete control of the vehicle.
16. If you get drowsy, contact your supervisor to arrange a break or to switch drivers.
17. Always secure all loads or cargo properly.
18. Inspect the equipment each shift. Don't use defective or unsafe equipment

General Maintenance for Truck Drivers

Your General Responsibility

Each operator is expected to know enough about the truck to recognize mechanical defects that arise during operation and to avoid the many **abuses** which a careless or uninformed driver can inflict on a truck in the course of driving.

1. Do not abuse the truck in any way.
2. Learn to recognize defects immediately and report the symptoms to your supervisor as soon as possible.
3. Make a complete inspection of your truck before your trip and do not leave until everything is in good working order, including the warning lights.

Truck Operations

Your personal safety and that of the occupants of each vehicle you encounter when driving is dependent upon your skill, knowledge, and understanding of the trucks you drive. You represent the department and the State of Missouri when you drive a MoDOT vehicle. It is your responsibility to project the best image possible through safe, courteous operation of all department equipment.