

## Securing Equipment Safely for Transport

Properly securing landscape equipment will help protect drivers and equipment from the hazards of wind and shifting. Employers should ensure that workers are trained in how to properly secure this equipment for transport. The following are precautions that employers and workers in the land care industry can take when preparing to transport motorized/movable objects.

### Safe Work Practices:

- ✓ Use vehicle's parking brake.
- ✓ Know the weight of the load.
- ✓ Do not overload the vehicle.
- ✓ Balance the load.
- ✓ Know the load capability of the trailer.
- ✓ Identify possible items that can fall out of the truck or trailer and be sure to secure them before moving.
- ✓ Make sure there is visibility. Equipment should not create blind spots for the driver.
- ✓ Aerators/seeders should be loaded sideways in truck beds or trailers before strapping down.
- ✓ Use proper load-rated straps to secure tanks to proper strap down points.
  - Avoid nylon tie-down straps and use mechanical devices.
  - Check straps for fraying before every use.
  - Do not use bungee cords to secure a load.
  - Always carry a backup strap.
- ✓ Use pre-made devices whenever possible, e.g., gas can holders to secure gas cans.
- ✓ If a load sticks out more than 3 feet past the end of a vehicle or trailer, it must be flagged.
- ✓ Ensure all gates are up and secured.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act, [employers are responsible](#) for providing a safe and healthy workplace and [workers have rights](#). OSHA can help answer questions or concerns from employers and workers. OSHA's [On-site Consultation Program](#) offers free and confidential advice to small and medium-sized businesses, with priority given to high-hazard worksites. For more information, contact your [regional or area OSHA office](#), call 1-800-321-OSHA (6742), or visit [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).

*Through the OSHA and National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP) Alliance, NALP developed this card for informational purposes only. It does not necessarily reflect the official views of OSHA or the U.S. Department of Labor.*