

Surveying Safety Training

By: Contra Costa Water District



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Surveying Safety



Individual Responsibilities

- Employees shall be alert for possible unsafe conditions and/or unsafe acts. Report unsafe conditions and/or acts to the supervisor or lead worker “in charge”
- Employees shall wear all required PPE while performing survey assignments. Minimum PPE is steel toe shoes, safety vest and hard hat. Sunscreen and protective sunglasses should be worn during hot weather
- Report and document all occupational injuries and illnesses
- Conduct a tailgate safety meeting with party members before starting work
- Perform a site hazard evaluation prior to starting work
- Know where the nearest medical facility is in case of an accident
- Notify Control and get approval from site “landlord” before entering sites such as pump stations or treatment plants



Equipment Transport

- Survey rod and tripod have sharp spikes – Place them in the trunk of the vehicle so they won't create a hazard during driving or an accident
- Transport pressurized spray paint cans in the trunk & don't leave them in areas where they can heat up
 - Recycle used cans appropriately – O&M has specific bins for recycling.
 - Remove cap from can before breaking out protective cover – Helps prevent accidental discharge
- Don't carry more equipment than you are comfortable with – make multiple trips if necessary or have someone help
- Equipment is expensive – Always transport in protective cases provided
- Design survey so that equipment can be setup in a safe location with minimal impact to public.



Surveying Near & Around Traffic

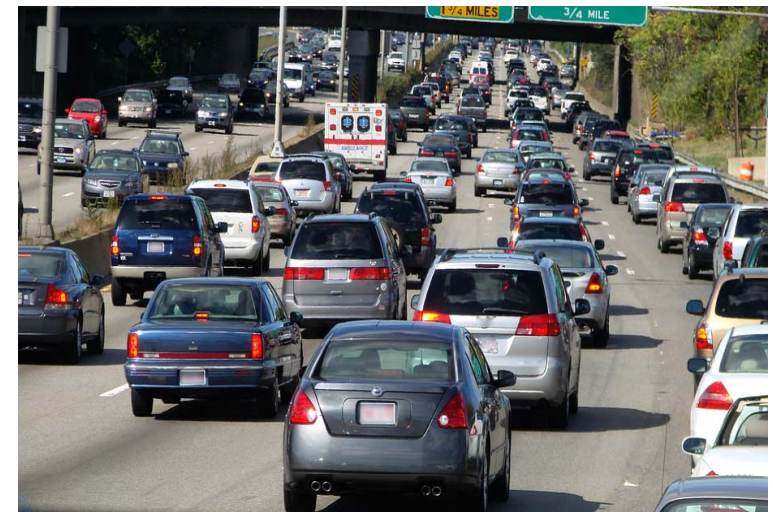
- **Face Traffic:** Whenever feasible, try and design the survey so that the “rod man” faces moving traffic at all times. If it is not possible to face traffic, a lookout should be used
- **Move Deliberately:** Do not make sudden movements that might confuse a motorist and cause an accident
- **Signal Cautiously:** Whenever feasible, use radio communication. Carefully and deliberately use surveying hand signals so they will not startle or confuse motorists or be mistaken for a flagger’s direction
- **Avoid Interrupting Traffic Flow:** Minimize crossing traffic lanes and never attempt to run across traffic lanes
- **Physical Barriers:** Whenever feasible, place a barrier vehicle or a shadow vehicle between moving traffic and workers
- **Ask for help**



Surveying Near & Around Traffic (Continued)

Consider factors that will affect traffic hazards and implement temporary traffic controls to minimize the hazards. Some factors to consider are:

- Prevailing traffic speed
- Peak traffic hours
- Motorists' sight distances
- Effect of unusual survey activities on traffic
- Pavement conditions – wet, frosty, etc



Other Safety Considerations

Surveying Near Waterways:

- Wear a Coast Guard approved life jacket whenever working near open waterways or inside the canal fence line
- Have additional PPE such as a throw bag available and ready for use, if needed
- Ensure all gates to canal are locked before leaving site



Environmental Hazards:

- Animals (dogs, snakes), Insects (wasps, spiders), Plants (Poison Oak)
- Heat exhaustion/stroke – Stay hydrated and take breaks in hot weather
- Slips, Trips and Falls – Be aware of surroundings and changes in terrain

