

## ***Mechanical Equipment Policy***

The purpose of the Mechanical Equipment Policy is to protect employees from hazards associate with the operation of mechanized construction equipment, and to ensure compliance with New Hampshire Department of Labor Standard 1403.37 Mechanized Equipment.

### **A. Employers Responsibilities**

The employer must train employees in the safe operation of all mechanical equipment. He/She must also ensure that employees operate the equipment in a safe manner. It is the responsibility of the employer to make sure all construction equipment in use is checked at the beginning of each shift to assure that all parts, equipment, and accessories that affect safe operation are in proper operating condition and free from defects. All defects shall be corrected before the vehicle is placed in service.

### **B. Employee Responsibilities**

As an employee, it is his/her responsibility to receive proper training before operating equipment, and always conduct an inspection of the equipment before use. He/She must report any hazards, unsafe conditions, accidents or damage caused by or involving the mechanical equipment.

### **C. Procedural Overview**

Operators shall not use any construction, earthmoving, or compacting equipment with an obstructed view to the rear unless a reverse signal (back up alarm) is operational and distinguishable from surrounding noise, and the vehicle is backed up only when an appointed observer signals that it is safe to do so.

During repair, Heavy machinery, equipment, or parts thereof, which are suspended or held aloft, shall be blocked to prevent falling or shifting before employees are permitted to work under or between them.

*From the Town of Amherst's Policy and Procedure Manual, 2009.*