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Colorado SAFETY WILD

Landfill Accidents

Below are some real life accidents at or near the landfill face. As you read about the four accidents think about what happened and think about your operation.

Two trucks parked side by side were dumping refuse from their raised trailers when the load of one truck shifted. The shift caused the truck to fall to the side, right on top of the parked vehicle next to it. The cab was effectively crushed.

The man was allegedly operating his truck in the landfill just before the accident. He stopped in a designated area to secure the swing tailgate on the truck. At the same time, an employee operating a separate truck struck the man's tailgate--pinning the man between the two trucks.

Employees already unloaded the dump truck at the face, and the other man was putting it back down and for some reason the guy reached back into the truck, employees don’t know why. Employees already finished unloading it and the guy reached back in there for something. The man was caught on the clamshell mechanism on a trash truck, not the compactor.

An employee suffered fatal injuries as a result of being run over by a mobile landfill compactor at a local municipal landfill. The victim, a truck driver for a municipal solid waste (MSW) trucking company, was delivering a load of refuse to the landfill at approximately 2:00 p.m. He pulled his semi-truck up to a working face, where landfill employees were operating two landfill compactors and a bulldozer, and started unloading. At approximately 2:20 p.m., one of the landfill compactors backed up along the driver’s side of the victim’s truck to get sand from a sand pile. The back up alarm on the compactor was working properly and the operator stated that he looked through both the rear and side mirrors before he began backing up but did not see the victim in his path. When the compactor curved away from the victim’s truck, the other compactor operator saw the victim lying on the ground next to his semi truck waving his hands for help. It appeared that the victim had been struck by the compactor as he was putting a broom into his truck following unloading.

These types of accidents can be prevented with proper policies, procedures and training. We all need to be looking out for one another, so we can all go home to our love ones.

The four accident description were referenced via the internet