

Personal Protective Equipment Policy

It is important that all PPE be kept clean and properly maintained. Cleaning is particularly important for eye and face protection where dirty or fogged lenses could impair vision. Employees are trained in PPE use, care, and limitations and must inspect, clean, and maintain their PPE according to the manufacturers' instructions before and after each use. Supervisors are responsible for training users to wear and properly maintain their PPE and for reviewing this policy annually.

Employees are responsible for providing clothing needed for protection against the natural elements, general purpose work gloves, and appropriate footwear including safety footwear, and safety headgear.

Highmark Environmental Services Ltd. shall provide, at no cost to the employee, all other items of personal protective equipment.

Personal protective equipment must not be shared between employees until it has been properly cleaned and sanitized. PPE will be distributed for individual use whenever possible.

If employees provide their own PPE, make sure that it is adequate for the work place hazards, and that it is maintained in a clean and reliable condition.

Defective or damaged PPE is not to be used and is to be immediately discarded and replaced. Report any malfunctioning PPE to your Supervisor.

NOTE: *Defective equipment can be worse than no PPE at all. Employees would avoid a hazardous situation if they knew they were not protected; but they would get closer to the hazard if they erroneously believed they were protected, and therefore would be at greater risk.*

It is also important to ensure that contaminated PPE which cannot be decontaminated is disposed of in a manner that protects employees from exposure to hazards.

Always ensure:

- 1) that the PPE you wear is correct for the hazard and protects you,
- 2) you properly use and wear the PPE,
- 3) the PPE is in a condition to perform the function for which it was designed,
- 4) your skin is protected from harmful substance that may injure your skin on contact or may adversely affect your health if it is absorbed through the skin, and
- 5) ensure that the PPE itself is not used in a situation that may endanger you.


Chris Weissbach, President

OCT 1, 2009
Date