

# Top 10 Causes of Driving Hazards in Logging Operations

Driving for work is top health and safety risk

As identified by workers, supervisors, and employers in the Ontario logging industry through a root cause analysis facilitated by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development and Workplace Safety North.



**1. Vehicles with mechanical issues and older equipment with poor maintenance**



**6. Inadequate forest road construction and maintenance**



**2. Poor safety culture limits support of safe driving programs**



**7. Inadequate safe operating procedures for drivers**



**3. Inconsistent on-the-job driver training**



**8. Inexperienced drivers not familiar with forest roads**



**4. Lack of fit-for-duty program**



**9. Pre-shift assessment checklist for vehicle and road conditions inconsistently completed**



**5. Limited standards and communication between firms and the Ministry in charge of maintaining highways**



**10. Poorly functioning safe driving program**

For more information, please contact your WSN Health and Safety Specialist or visit [workplacesafetynorth.ca](http://workplacesafetynorth.ca)

# Approved Logging Health and Safety Training

## Forestry Common Core Mandatory Skills Training in Ontario

Ontario law requires chainsaw operators (cutters) and operators of cable skidders and mechanical harvesting equipment to receive common core classroom training on health and safety principles and practices related to the equipment they have been hired to operate.

The operators of these pieces of equipment must be registered for this training before they start work and they must complete the classroom training and associated on-site competency tests within one year of being registered.

## Safe Driving on Forest Roads E-learning (Disponible en français)

This course reviews the hazards of driving company, personal, or recreational vehicles on forest roads. It covers the unique physical nature of these roads, how to drive safely on them, and how to properly prepare a vehicle and driver. Defensive driving techniques on forest roads in all seasons, and general safety principles are also reviewed.

## Competent Supervisor Training (Disponible en français)

Health and safety awareness training is now law for every worker and supervisor in Ontario. WSN Competent Supervisor training focuses on the health and safety rights and responsibilities of workers, supervisors, and employers; and gives supervisors the tools to integrate health and safety into their everyday role. Supervisors are responsible for helping set and maintain a strong safety culture.

## About Workplace Safety North

Your local health and safety partner

An independent not-for-profit, Workplace Safety North (WSN) is one of four sector-based health and safety associations in Ontario.

Headquartered in northern Ontario, WSN provides province-wide government approved workplace health and safety training and services for the forest products and mining industries.

With health and safety specialists located across the province, WSN and its legacy organizations have been helping make Ontario workplaces safer for more than 100 years.

WSN is a leading provider of health and safety services, and businesses and communities call upon WSN for expert advice and training. For more information, visit [workplacesafetynorth.ca](http://workplacesafetynorth.ca).



Scan the QR code to learn more about logging industry risk-based research, or visit [workplacesafetynorth.ca/industries/forest-products](http://workplacesafetynorth.ca/industries/forest-products)

The internal responsibility system (IRS) is a system where everyone shares responsibility for occupational health and safety that is appropriate to their role and function within the workplace.

All workplace parties — including employers, managers, supervisors, and workers — need to do their part to raise awareness of risks, and follow and promote safety procedures to help make workplaces safer.