

## **Town of Amherst Safety Policy Statement**

The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, clearly states our common goal of safe and healthful working conditions to be the first consideration in all Town operations. Safety and health in our community must be part of every operation. Without questions, it is every employee's responsibility at all levels.

It is intent of the Town of Amherst to comply with all laws. To do this, we must constantly be aware of conditions in all work areas that can produce injuries. No employee is required to work at a job he/she knows is not safe or healthful. Your cooperation in detecting hazards and, in turn, controlling them, is a condition of your employment. Inform your supervisor immediately of any situation beyond your ability or authority to correct.

The personal safety and health of each employee of this organization is of primary importance. Prevention of occupationally induced injuries and illnesses is of such consequence that it will be given precedence over operating productivity, whenever necessary. To the greatest degree possible, management will provide all mechanical and physical activities required for personal safety and health, in keeping with the highest standards.

We will maintain a safety and health program conforming to the best practices of small local governments. To be successful, such a program must embody proper attitudes toward injury and illness prevention on the part of supervisors and employees. It also requires cooperation in all safety and health matters, between not only supervisor and employee, but also between each employee and his/her co-workers. Only through such a cooperative effort can a safety program in the best interest of all established and preserved.

Our safety and health program will include:

- Providing mechanical and physical safeguards to the maximum extent possible.
- Conducting safety and health inspections to find, eliminate or control safety and health hazards, as well as unsafe working conditions and practices.
- Training all employees in good safety and health practices.
- Providing necessary personal protective equipment and instructions for use and care.
- Developing and enforcing safety and health rules, and requiring that employees cooperate with these rules as a condition of employment.
- Investigating, promptly and thoroughly, every accident to find out what caused it and correct the problem so it will not happen again.

We recognize that the responsibilities for safety and health are shared:

- The employer accepts the responsibilities for leadership of the safety and health program, for its effectiveness and improvement, and for providing the safeguards required ensuring safe conditions.
- Supervisors are responsible for developing proper attitude toward safety and health in themselves and in those they supervise, and for ensuring that all operations are performed with the utmost regard for the safety and health of all personnel involved, including themselves.
- Employees are responsible for wholehearted, genuine operation of all aspects of the safety and health program, including compliance with all rules and regulations and for continuously practicing safety while performing their duties.