



# OH&S Safety Matters

## Load Securement Training

All drivers of commercial vehicles must have received training in load securement and are legally responsible for the security of their loads **but is the company pickup truck a commercial vehicle.**

To comply with provincial / territorial, and the Federal regulations, drivers must receive training on specific cargo securement techniques for the commodities they transport. In addition, there needs to be an understanding for local jurisdictional requirements that mandate truck loads being tarped to prevent cargo from escaping, shifting, or being damaged by weather/debris.

It seems reasonable that a commercial vehicle is a tractor-trailer, a heavy-duty work truck, but is the company pickup truck a commercial vehicle. **The answer is “Yes”** if a pickup truck is registered to a business, used for business purposes (transporting tools, goods, or equipment), or exceeds specific weight thresholds. In Canada, a vehicle is typically deemed commercial if it is used 90% or more to earn income, or if it has a Registered Gross Vehicle Weight (RGVW) exceeding 4500 kilograms.

All cargo on the pickup truck must be secured so that it cannot leak, spill, blow off, fall from, fall through or otherwise be dislodged from the pickup truck. Cargo must also be secured so that it cannot shift enough to affect the maneuvering or stability of the pickup truck. The chosen cargo securement system must be appropriate for the cargo's size, shape, strength and characteristics.

A driver must inspect the cargo securement system at the point where the cargo was loaded, and on a regular basis during the trip. Drivers must record cargo securement inspections in a logbook.

Training is required for anyone responsible for loading, or driving commercial motor vehicles, including the company pickup truck. How do you properly pack, distribute the load, and tie down cargo. **Drivers are legally responsible for the security of their loads, even if the cargo was loaded by someone else.**

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## Wildfire Smoke can affect your health !

Firefighters work in urban, rural, forest, transportation, naval and mixed settings to prevent and extinguish fires, they are also providing emergency care as first responders.

Firefighters don't only face physical hazards on the job. They can also be exposed to toxic substances when responding to a fire.

In June 2022 the International Agency for Research on Cancer classified firefighting as a known human carcinogen:

Between 2005 and 2016, 86% of occupational fatality claims for Canadian firefighters were linked to cancer.

Firefighters have a 9% higher risk of cancer diagnosis, and a 14% higher risk of dying from cancer than the general public.

In June 2023, there was an Act to establish a National Framework for the prevention and treatment of cancers linked to firefighting, unanimously passed by Parliament. It builds on the commitments to create an action plan to protect people in Canada, including our firefighters, from exposure to toxic fire retardants found in household products. It also expands on the action plan to protect firefighters from the harmful chemicals released during household fires.

The Government of Canada is leading the development of the National Framework on Cancers Linked to Firefighting.



The 2026 wildfire season is anticipated to be challenging due to low snowpack and ongoing drought. No one can precisely predict how Canada's wildfire season will play out. A seasonal forecast can't account for a fire's ignition, such as a lightning strike, or the hot, dry and windy weather conditions that fuel fires and arrive on short notice.

Parts of Canada emerged from winter under abnormally dry or drought conditions, including historic wildfire hot spots in British Columbia's southern Interior, northern Manitoba and eastern Northwest Territories.

Long-range forecasts suggest much of Canada could be hotter than normal over the coming months. Canada heads into this season in uncharted territory, coming off three consecutive severe fire years.

Canada's managed forests in recent years have started to release more carbon than they absorb, reinforcing a climate

feedback loop. In one of the most striking examples, Canada's 2023 wildfires released more planet warming emissions than almost any country on Earth.

Fires exact their toll in many ways. Tens of thousands of people across Canada have fled from wildfires during recent seasons and studies document high rates of post-traumatic stress among evacuees.

Wildfire smoke can affect your health. Exposure to too much wildfire smoke can irritate your eyes, lungs and heart. We can't predict when wildfires will occur, so it's best to be prepared by staying informed. Wildfires cause episodes of the worst air quality that many people will ever experience.

Please remember that taking action to reduce exposure in the short-term will also help to protect you and your family in the long-term.



## Summer Jobs & Hiring Youth

The Occupational Health and Safety Regulation section 3.22 defines a “young worker” as any worker under age 25. A “new worker” can be any age including those new to the workplace or location, or facing new hazards. The rules and employment standards around hiring young people better protect youth at work by raising the general working age and defining the types of jobs that are appropriate for young workers.

Youth aged 14 and 15 are able to do many appropriate jobs, defined as “light work,” with permission from a parent or guardian. In some cases, children aged 14 and 15 may be permitted to do work outside the definition of light work with a permit from the Ministry of Labour’s Employment Standards Branch.

Providing effective training and orientation is the best way to prevent workplace incidents. Employers are responsible for ensuring workers are prepared for the job before they start work.

Even experienced workers will require re-orientation if their work circumstances change or new hazards develop.

Develop a mentorship program by pairing up young and new workers with more experienced workers. Encourage young and new workers to ask questions of their managers, their supervisors and co-workers.

Employers need to be aware of the regulations around hiring young people, and they must be sure to document all training. This is a requirement under the OH&S regulations. An orientation checklist will ensure employers cover all the key topics.

Parents play a unique role in influencing how children think about safety at work. Sharing knowledge and experiences with children can help them establish safe behaviours. Employers are ultimately responsible for a worker’s health and safety, but everyone has a role to play in keeping youth safe in the workplace.



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### Puzzle Answers

Here are the answers to the **May** Issue of the Safety Matters Crossword Puzzle.

#### Motorcycle Terminology

##### Across

- 3. Rally
- 7. Bagger
- 9. Torque
- 11. Leathers
- 13. Pipes
- 14. Trike
- 15. Wrenching
- 16. Bobber
- 17. Lid

##### Down

- 1. Fairing
- 2. Chopper
- 4. Kickstand
- 5. Fork
- 6. Clutch
- 7. Beanie
- 8. Gremlin
- 10. Hardtail
- 12. Ride
- 15. Wobble

Upcoming challenge solve the **Crossword Puzzle** on the next page **Play Now!**

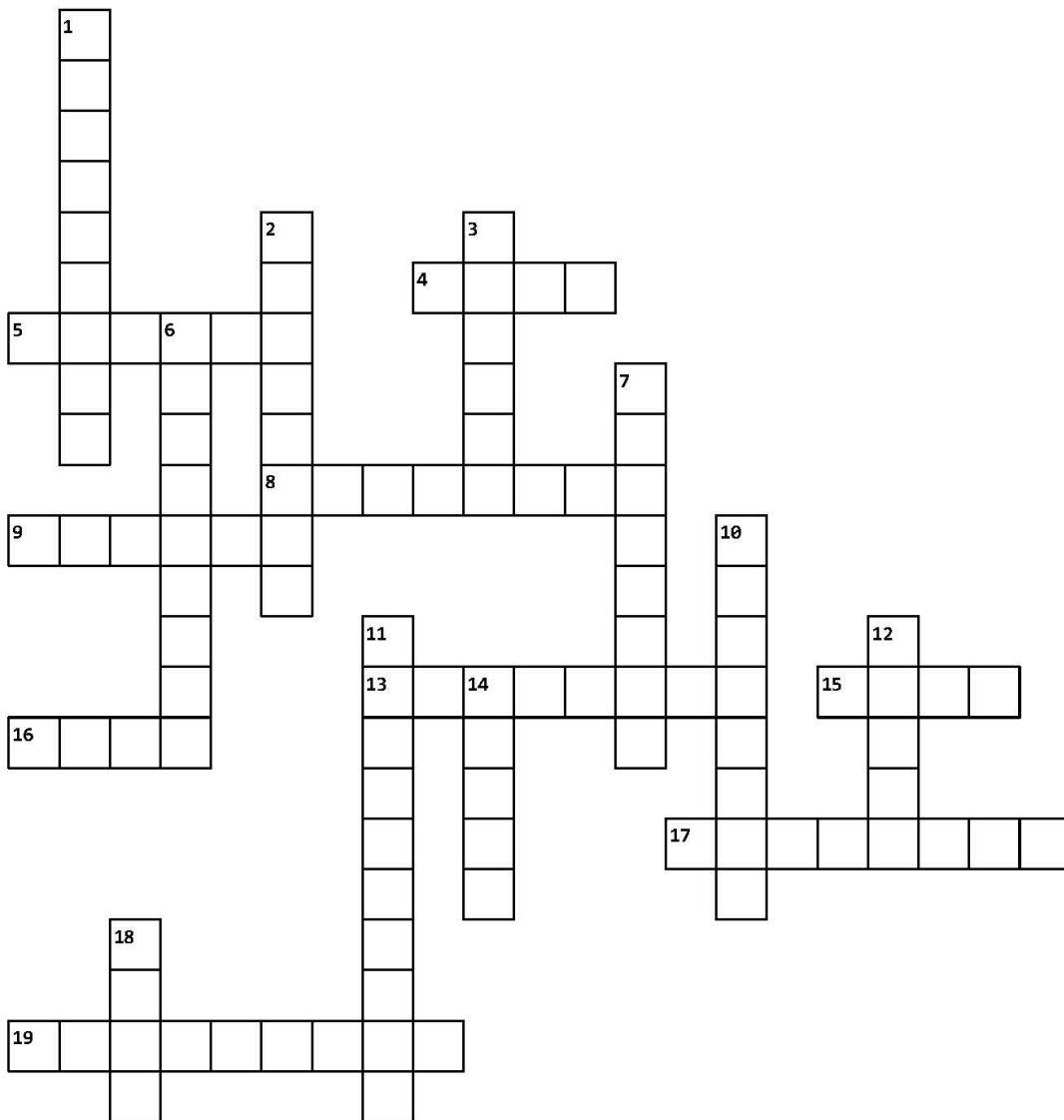


## Wildfire Terminology Skills Crossword



The OHS Registry *Safety Matters* crossword puzzles are ideal for people who love words, general knowledge, and testing their problem solving skills. So, what are you waiting for?

**Print the puzzle to play now !**



## Wildfire Terminology Crossword

### Clues for the Wildfire Terminology Crossword Puzzle

Select a clue from the 'across' or 'down' lists. Think up possible answers to the clue. Each across and down clue is assigned a unique number. This number corresponds to the number for its answer in the grid. Words in the crossword puzzle will cross each other, this is the source of inspiration for the name of the game, crossword!

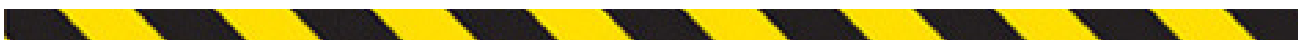
Who can complete the crossword challenge. Save your progress, the correct answers to the crossword challenge will be revealed in the next issue of ***Safety Matters***

#### Across

4. Layer of decomposed organic materials lying on the forest floor under the litter.
5. To inspect a control line or fire perimeter after a wildfire has been contained.
8. The beginning of flame production, or the starting of a fire.
9. The uppermost part of the forest floor consisting of freshly fallen materials.
13. Action taken when there is a threat to public safety, property and other timber.
15. Any organic matter, living or dead, on the ground, or in the air that can burn.
16. A term that combines probability of fire occurrence with expected impacts of fire.
17. Refers to an event that firefighters or other staff are responding to.
19. Status of a wildfire suppression action completed to stop the fire's spread.

#### Down

1. Initial attack crew that parachute from a fixed-wing aircraft to access wildfires.
2. An unplanned fire occurring on forest or range lands, burning all vegetation.
3. Unit suspend from a helicopter to apply water or suppressant to a wildfire.
6. Initial attack crew that rappels and hoists from a helicopter in hard access areas.
7. Foliage on a single tree or clump of trees ignites and flares up from the bottom.
10. The area of the fire to which resources are deployed and are actively engaged.
11. The controlled application of fire to burn a specific area.
12. Strategically planned barrier constructed to stop or retard the rate of fire spread.
14. Debris left as a result of forest activities (e.g. harvesting, pruning, clearing).
18. A numerical value used to communicate a assessment of fire behaviour.



# Career in Safety Instruction

Working in the safety industry involves protecting worker health by identifying hazards, enforcing regulations, and developing prevention programs. You'll find OHS roles in nearly every Industry; from construction and energy to healthcare, education and government.

Whether you want to work in the field or behind the scenes, there are a wide range of OHS careers available. If you're passionate about protecting others, solving problems and making your workplace a safer place, a career in occupational health and safety might be the right fit for you.

Does earning an OHS Instructor credential offer a good career path? Absolutely!

The OHS instructor role requires an extensive knowledge of OHS,

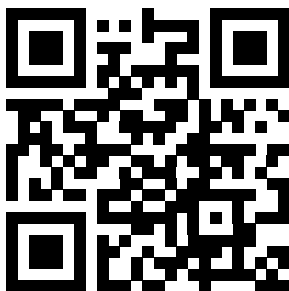


excellent communication skills, and a passion for promoting a proactive safety culture. The OHS Instructor role involves teaching a diverse audience, including employees, and managers, on best practices for maintaining safe and compliant workplaces.

If you are ready to reach your career dreams, explore OH&S instructor programs to learn how to start building the credentials you need to make an impact.

### For more Information

Point your smartphone camera at this QR code and take a picture to be redirected to the OH&S Registry Website. [www.ohsregistry.com](http://www.ohsregistry.com)



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OH&S Safety Training Solutions 778.473.6407  
 Classroom Based - Instructor Led Safety Training

	<b>ATV and UTV Operator</b> Our ATV and UTV Operator course has been developed for those with an occupational requirement to be trained to safely undertake work activities that involve the operation of an All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) and/or a Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV). The goal of this course is to help you better understand what an ATV and UTV Operator responsibilities are and how to manage those responsibilities to protect your health and safety and the health and safety of your co-workers.
	<b>Boom Trucks, Hoists and Riggers</b> This training program encompasses activities that involve the operation of Light Duty Boom Trucks (with a rated capacity of less than five tons with a boom length of less than 25 feet based on the manufacturer's user function), hoists and the rigging of loads. Only qualified persons trained in the inspection, application, and operation of a crane or hoist, including the recognition and avoidance of hazards associated with their operation, shall operate the equipment.
	<b>Confined Space Entry - General Industry</b> Confined spaces are potentially one of the most dangerous of all workplaces, however the goal of this course is to prepare you to safely perform work in a confined space. By the end of this course you will be able to describe a confined space, describe various hazards and know how to handle hazards that are identified, you will understand the confined space permit system and should something go terribly wrong, you will know how to effect a non entry rescue.
	<b>Confined Space Entry - Mining Industry</b> The Mines Act and the accompanying Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for mines in British Columbia (the Code) protect workers health and safety and enforce legislation related to confined space activities. This legislation obligates the mine manager to ensure that written procedures are developed and each person who is assigned duties or responsibilities related to entry into a confined space is adequately trained. This course will provide you with the information that is needed to implement a Confined Space Entry Program.
	<b>Confined Space Rescue Basics</b> The occupational health and safety regulation requires the employer to prepare a written confined space entry program that includes procedures for rescue. This course will provide the information used to establish an industrial confined space rescue response and the training that is needed to prepare individuals to implement rescue operations. It takes a mix of prevention, planning, preparation, training and communications to create and sustain an effective Confined Space Rescue response.

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## 2026 e-Catalogue is Available

Are you ready to tap into a wider network of training programs. Get access to 100% of the OH&S safety training programs by simply sending an e-mail and asking for a **FREE copy** of the OH&S training course library!

[info@ohsregistry.com](mailto:info@ohsregistry.com)

## Staying in Touch

We want you to be aware that you always have the opportunity to opt-out from receiving OH&S Registry electronic communications. To opt-out, simply call the OH&S Registry at 778.957.6407 or email [info@ohsregistry.com](mailto:info@ohsregistry.com) and ask to be taken off the OH&S Registry Membership email list.

The OH&S Registry will never sell or rent your email address and should you decide that you no longer want to receive further electronic communications we will accommodate your decision to "unsubscribe".

We trust you will choose to continue to receive the **OH&S Safety Matters** newsletters and other promotional materials so you can stay up to date on new programs, best practice tips, and other OH&S Registry news.

We appreciate your business, and look forward to working with you to achieve your safety training goals. Thank you for being a subscriber!

