

Emerging Proficient



Commercial Driver Program

# Emergency & Accident Protocols

Introductory Curriculum

# EPCD Collaboration of Construction Businesses

Thanks to the advisory committee for your review and approval and to Fortified Development for the development of this curriculum.

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- Denise Tolmich - Ram-CO
- Emily Crespin – CDOT
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- Irasema Moreno - CHOM Trucking
- Martell Dyles – JE Dunn Construction
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# Let's Get Started!



# Overview

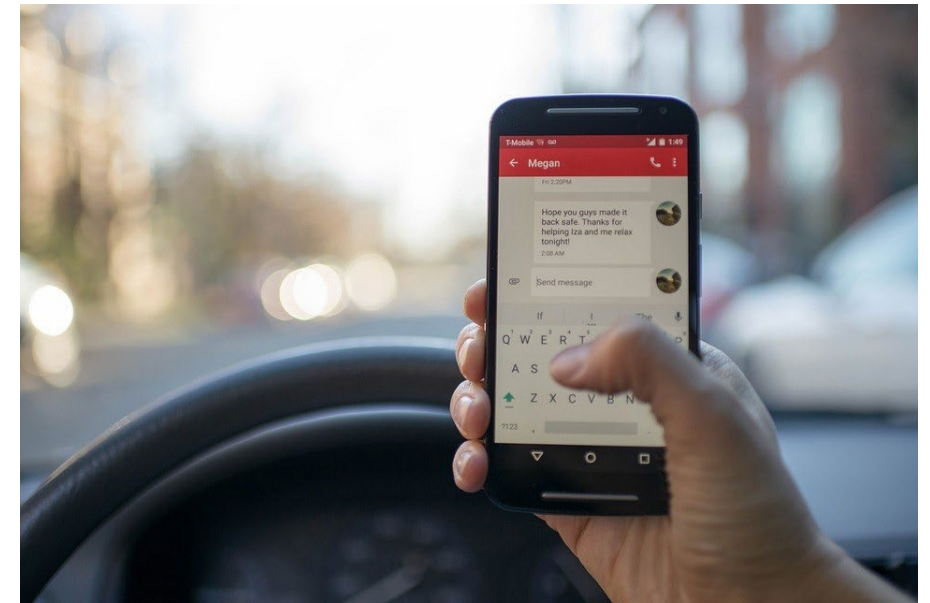
The ultimate goal is to be accident free; but as we all know, accidents happen. The Emergency and Accident Protocols session gives drivers the guidance of what to do after being involved in (or witnessing) an accident. It is designed to be the most efficient and legally protective way to document various types of incidents, protecting both the driver and the carrier.

- **Emergency & Accident Training will cover:**
  - Procedures to follow after an accident occurs
  - Explain the follow-up and documentation that needs to be completed after leaving the scene.
- **Training Hour(s): 2 hr.**

# Distracted Driving

The best way to **prevent an accident** is to not be distracted by physical or mental influences while your are driving such as:

- Being distracted by objects outside of your truck
- Texting
- Using a dispatching
- Dialing a handheld phone
- Reading or using a paper map
- Eating or drinking



**DON'T PANIC!**  
**Follow the procedures**



# Emergencies & Accidents

- o Emergency Vehicles
- o Roadside Emergencies
  - o Breakdowns
  - o Collisions
  - o Tire Blowouts and Failures
  - o Brake Failure
- o Adverse Weather Conditions



# Emergency Vehicles

## Emergency Vehicle is Approaching You

- Pull as far to the right as safely possible and yield (unless Emergency Vehicle is on the opposite side of a divided highway)

## You are Approaching a Stationary Emergency Vehicle

- Approach with caution
- Move over one lane from the emergency vehicle if an additional lane is available
- If it is a one-lane highway, slow down and proceed with caution





# Roadside Emergencies

- Move off roadway to safe location
  - Turn on hazard lights/4-way flashers
- Secure truck
  - Set parking brake
  - Place transmission in neutral or park
  - Shut off engine
- Place three warning triangles outside the truck within 10 min. of stopping on shoulder of the road

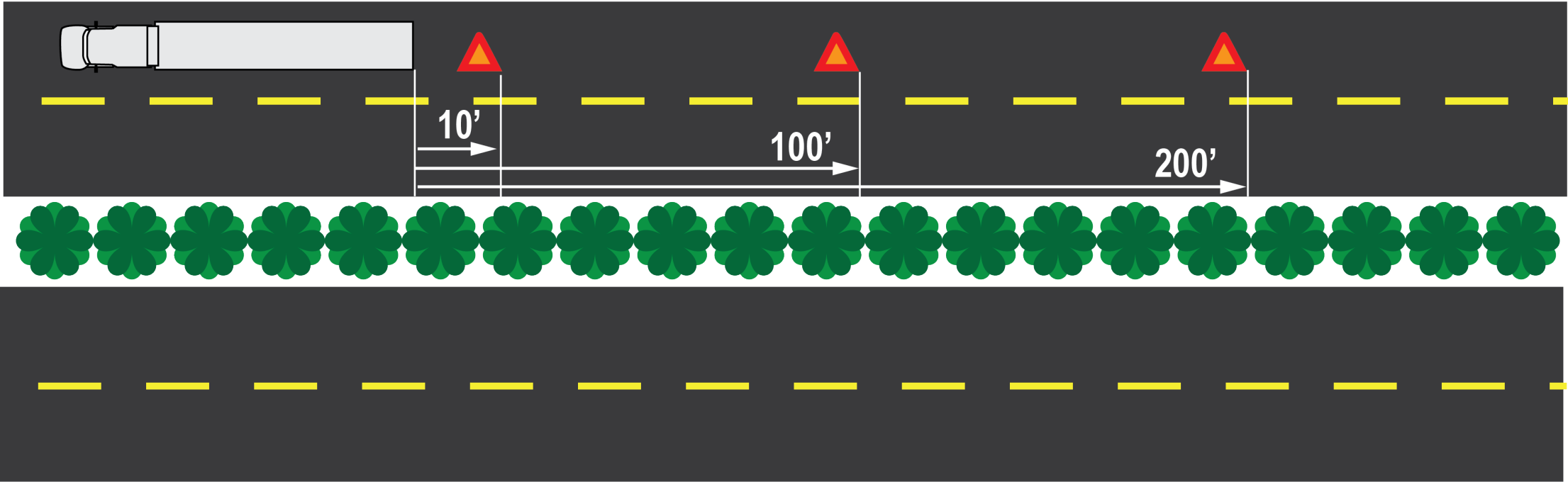


# Placing Warning Triangles

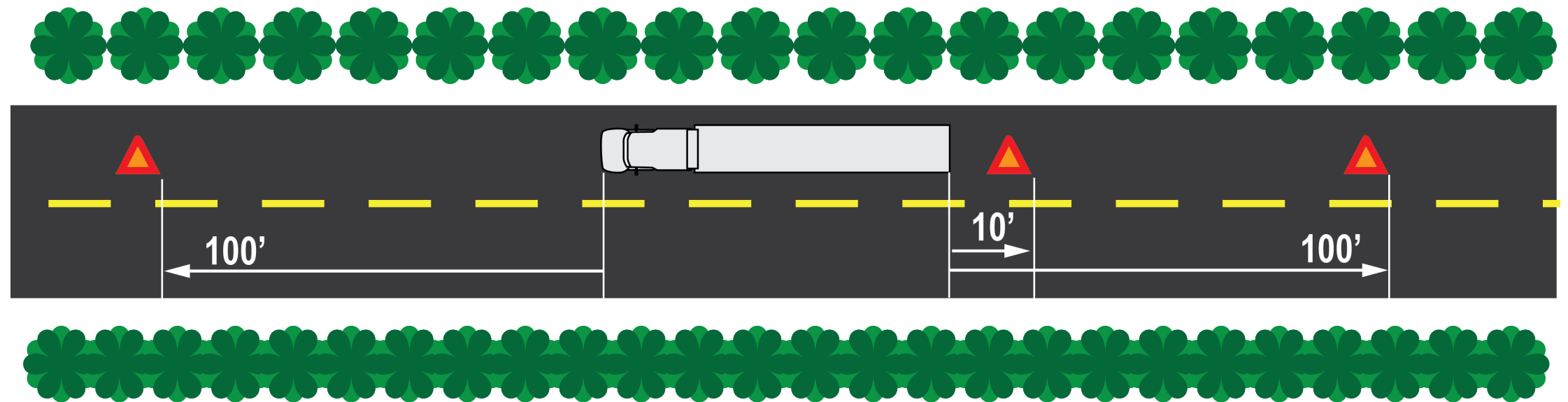
- Always place 3 warning devices
- Placement depends on location of the vehicle
- Divided highway or one-way road
- Two-way, undivided roadway
- Within 500 ft. of curve, hill, or other view obstruction that prevents oncoming traffic from seeing parked vehicle



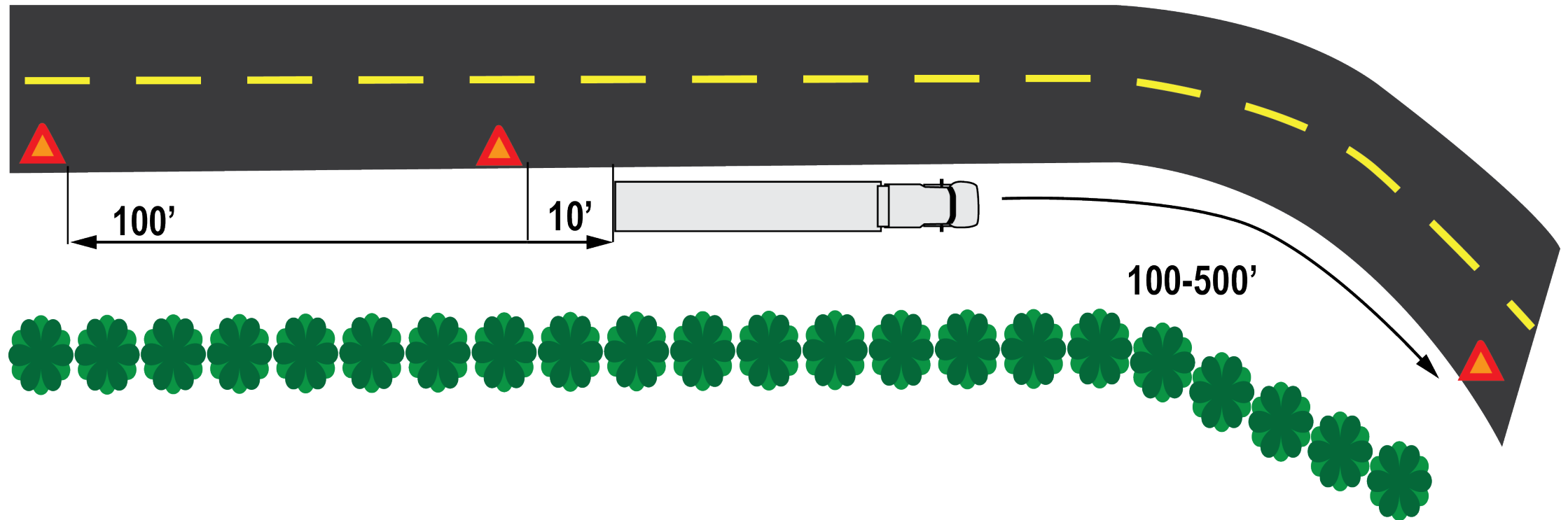
# Divided Highway/One-way Roadway



# Two-way/Undivided Roadway



# Two-way Roadway with Sight Restriction



# Procedures to Follow After an Accident Occurs

# Collisions/ Crashes



Remain

Remain calm

Call

911

Secure

Secure vehicle and move off roadway to a safe area

Place

Place warning triangles

Contact

Contact your employer to notify of the situation  
•Your employer will contact your customer

Notify

If hauling hazmat materials, notify the officers and the other driver(s) immediately

# Gather Proper Information

- Details of other parties involved: Name, address, phone, email, license plate, insurance company and policy number
- Additional passengers in the truck
- Name & contact info of witnesses
- Responding police agency, including officer's full name
- Location details
- Photographs to document damage to vehicles, tire marks, debris, driver, etc.
- Any fuel/fluid released from the accident
- Note if there are any video cameras that captured the accident

***What you say can impact the liability for you and your company. Cooperate with the police, but don't discuss the crash with anyone other than company representatives; this includes media inquiries.***



# Post Collision Protocol


- Required DOT drug and alcohol testing
  - Alcohol testing – within 8 hours of the incident
  - Drug test – within 32 hours of the incident
- Verify with your supervisor of any additional company specific policies

**Don't consume any alcohol or drugs  
after a collision.**

# After Leaving the Scene



# Items to Submit

- Employer's incident report
  - Personal statement
  - Police report number
  - Pictures of the license and proof of insurance of all of the additional vehicles involved
  - Submit photos and video documentation
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# Additional Emergency Circumstances

# Tire Blowouts and Failures

**Pay attention to any unusual vibrations.  
Check them out IMMEDIATELY!**

- Don't brake. Hold steering wheel tightly, but don't steer until the vehicle slows down
- Turn on hazard lights
- Coast until vehicle slows to under 20 mph
- Exit roadway and stop in a safe location



# Brake Failure

Air Brake system failures are usually indicated by the “low air warning” sound and light.

When this happens:

- Turn on hazard lights
- Slow vehicle by using transmission and lower gears. If possible, apply the engine brake
- Wait to attempt to brake until you are ready to stop. The ability to apply the breaks will be limited
- If available, use a runaway truck ramp



For more mountain driving safety information, review [CDOT's Mountain Rules](#).

# Adverse Weather Conditions – Wind

- Crosswinds, winds blowing perpendicular to the truck, are much more dangerous than headwinds or tailwinds
- Do NOT try to pass other vehicles or make any sudden lane changes
- Keep a tight grip
- Drive slowly
- Avoid parking under trees
- Drive your truck close to the shoulder
- Do NOT drive a tractor without a trailer
- Park with your trailer facing the wind head-on to reduce the possibility of your trailer flipping

# Adverse Weather Conditions – Fog

- Postpone your trip if possible
- Drive Slowly
- Turn on your hazard lights
- Remain at least 2 trailer lengths apart (106 feet from the vehicle in front of you)
- Pay attention to all signs
- Consistently scan your mirrors





# Adverse Weather Conditions – Snow & Ice

- Slow down
- Don't travel as part of a pack
- Keep a buffer zone around your truck
- Don't push beyond the limit of your vehicle
- Carry a bag of kitty litter
- Carry a hammer & putty knife - Air tanks can freeze up pretty quick.
- Keep an eye on your trailer tires
- Keep tail-lights and license plate clear of snow and ice
- Don't stop on the shoulder of the road
- Don't try to be a hero
- Do NOT engage the Jake Brake on icy roads
- Keep fuel tanks topped up



# Personal Safety – 3 Points of Contact

- Keep three points of contact with the vehicle at all times (one hand and two feet, or two hands and one foot).
- Avoid falling out backwards, maintain the three-point rule until you are securely seated or firmly on the ground.



Time for Hands On!