

Before operating any vehicle or piece of equipment, it is essential to conduct a thorough 360° walkaround inspection. Mirrors don't show us everything, and this simple yet critical step helps identify potential hazards, mechanical issues, or safety concerns on or around the vehicle or equipment that may otherwise go unnoticed. By taking just a few minutes to visually check your surroundings, vehicle, or equipment, you're ensuring safeguards for coworkers, the public, and the integrity of operations. R.O.A.D. Ready (Recognize, Observe, Assess, & Determine) can be used to help improve awareness of hazards and increase safety before moving vehicles or equipment.

**1**

**Fixed Objects** – Identify any fixed objects in the area around the vehicle. Bollards, utility poles, mailboxes and trashcans are commonly found in the areas where we park. Also look for other vehicles in the area, and be mindful that surroundings may have changed. People, especially children or bicyclists, may be walking or riding near your vehicle or could be in blind spots you can not see.



**2**

**Ground around the Vehicle** – Look around the vehicle for any debris that may pose a problem. Screws and nails are common objects found on the ground around our vehicles. Sticks and rocks are also potential hazards that can cause damage.

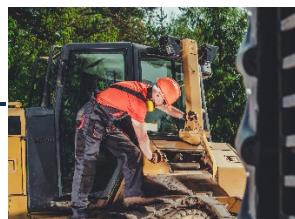
**3**

**Look Up** – This is especially important if you have a load taller than the vehicle itself. Look above the vehicle for low branches, power lines and communication lines. Always check the height of equipment being towed to make sure it will clear the utilities on your trip.



**4**

**Vehicle Inspection** – Ensure the vehicle is in good operating condition. A quick visual inspection will help identify low tires and any body damage that should be noted.



**5**

**On the Vehicle** – If you are hauling materials, make sure your load is secure. Ladders, cones, and other tools can fall out of the vehicle if not properly secured. Take the time to check your truck bed or trailer to avoid any costly incidents.

#### LEARN MORE WITH THESE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Texas Department of Insurance: [Vehicle Safety Checklist](#)
- Texas Department of Insurance: [Safe Driving Tips Fact Sheet](#)
- [Pre-Drive Vehicle 360 Walk-Around: An Essential Safety Check](#)
- TML Risk Pool [Vehicle Preparedness T.I.P.S. Sheet](#)