

Near Misses



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WAC- Chapter 296-27

Near misses are included in chapter 296-27 WAC for recording work-related injuries and illnesses. While it is not required to report near misses, it is recommended that near misses are recorded.

"The employer must establish a system for complying with chapter 296-27 WAC for recording work-related injuries and illnesses and reporting to the department any work-related fatality, inpatient hospitalization, amputation, or loss of an eye. In addition, the employer must also report to the department within eight hours after any work-related incident that results in injury or illness from acute pesticide exposure."

To learn more visit:

<https://lni.wa.gov/safety-health/safety-rules/chapter-pdfs/WAC296-307.PDF#partD>

Examples of Near Misses

Some examples of near-miss accidents:

- Slipping, tripping, or falling but no injuries occur
- Machine/Tractor stops working and results in a scare but no accident
- Supplies or equipment falls but no major injury occurs or everyone is safe
- Small cuts caused by metal or other farm objects (cuts that only require a bandage)

Why is it important to track incidents that are near misses?

Tracking near misses helps farmers identify potential hazards and prevention strategies before more serious or fatal injuries occur.

Benefits of tracking near misses:

- Identifying things that are broken or not working
- Identifying things are worn out and need to be replaced
- Identifying the need for new and improved tool
- Identifying the need for more training or more targeted training
- Identifying the need for a walk through consultation

Tools for Tracking Near Misses

Tools for Tracking Near Misses


Tracking near misses can take time and be very tedious.

You can use the following tools to increase efficiency and accuracy when recording near misses.

WA HSEQ App: A smartphone APP for reporting Good Observations, Near-Miss or Accidents.

- iPhone: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/wa-hseq/id1161693635>
- Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=no.mellora.hseq.wa&hl=en>
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Conkpw0GWRM>

Tracking sheets:

- Have tracking sheets handy, for example, in your first Aid Kit
 - [Near Misses tracking sheet.docx](#) 
 - [Near Misses tracking sheet.docx.pdf](#) 