

FLOODING FATAL INJURY FACTS

During severe flooding conditions between June 22 and June 30, 2006, 4 workers died as a direct result of the weather. Below are real-life descriptions of the workers who were killed on the job.

A 74-year-old male was killed while helping his brother pull a skid-steer loader out of the mud with a farm tractor. The tractor flipped over.

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A 55-year-old electrical utilities worker was electrocuted while installing a new transformer when he placed an aluminum ladder in an electrical vault that contained three feet of water.

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Two male truck drivers, aged 55 and 42 years, were killed when the trucks



PHOTO COURTESY OF NYS SEMO

they were driving went into a washed out section of an interstate highway.

HOW CAN FLOODING ACCIDENTS BE PREVENTED?

- Exercise caution when operating tractors or other mobile equipment.
 - Loads should be properly hitched.
 - Ensure all tractors are equipped with rollover protective structures (ROPS) and seatbelts. Equipment can slip easily on muddy ground.
- Proceed with caution when entering a building that has been impacted by severe weather.
 - Turn off power and outside gas lines at the meter or tank before entering.
 - Watch for electrical shorts and live wires.
 - Air out building to remove escaping gases.
 - Wear rubber boots and gloves.
- Stay off roadways impacted by severe weather events unless there is an emergency.
 - Turn around if you come to a flooded road, whether driving or walking. There is no way to estimate the depth of the water nor the condition of the road under the water.

New York Fatality Assessment & Control Evaluation (FACE)

The NY FACE program is supported by a grant from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). Additional information can be obtained by contacting: Bureau of Occupational Health, 1-866-807-2130. Full FACE reports can be found at: www.nyhealth.gov/nysdoh/face/face.htm