**Skid Loader Safety**

**Machine Maintenance**
- Stay clear of moving parts
- Inspect each day before use
- Ensure shields and guards are in place
- Replace damaged or worn parts immediately
- Repair leaking fittings or damaged hydraulic hoses

**Mounting & Dismounting**
- Never jump off when exiting
- Never use controls as handholds
- Always enter with the loader arms down
- Keep steps clean from grease, oil, and debris
- Face the machine & maintain 3 points of contact

**Safe Operation**
- Keep riders off of the machine
- Be aware of potential site hazards
- Before backing, clear path of travel
- Be aware of bystanders or coworkers
- Understand the controls and safety equipment
- Lower all attachments to the ground before shut down

**Stability**
- Travel with the heavy end uphill
- Stabilize load by evenly distributing materials
- Avoid overloading - check manual for load capacity
- Loader attachments alter the machines center of gravity
- Use caution on slopes and avoid abrupt turns at high speeds
- Keep loads close to the ground to aid visibility and lower center of gravity

---

For more information:
OSU Agricultural Safety & Health Program
http://ag safety.osu.edu