

## Safety First!

- Remove keys from tractor and ensure tractor is in “park.”
- If tractor is being used for a demo, ensure the operator is over 18 years of age.
- Only operate tractor and equipment if sufficient supervision is present. Ensure participants are supervised and behind safety barrier.
- Maintain a good safety zone between machinery and participants.
- Ensure supervision while doing demonstration.

## Break the Ice

- Tell them about yourself and any experiences you have with a loader or post pounder.
- Ask questions – this will encourage the children to be more involved!
- For example:
  - Does anyone in your family operate a post pounder or loader bucket?
  - Do you know anyone who has been injured while using a post pounder or loader?
  - What happened to them?

## Take-Home Messages

### Post Pounder

- Proper training is a must.
- Never operate without all guards in place.
- Operate only while wearing protective eyewear, headgear and hearing protection.
- Never stand next to the post pounder; keep far away.
- Always keep hands away from post; the pounder can easily crush your hand.

### Loader

- Keep bucket low when transporting or turning.
- Look out for power lines when bucket is raised.
- Never walk or work underneath a raised bucket – if it fell it would crush you.
- Never ride in the bucket.
- Operate loader controls only when sitting in the seat of the tractor.
- If maintenance is required on bucket, physically block the bucket or arm.

## Loader Continued

- Ensure the loader is on the ground before shutting the tractor off and dismounting.
- Because of the loader, the operator may have a hard time seeing you. Make sure you stand back and get the operator's attention from a distance.
- Loaders should only be used for jobs they were designed for (example: not used for towing, knocking things down or pulling out fence posts).
- An elevated loader changes the center of gravity and can cause the tractor to tip.

## Interactive Activities

- Demonstrate the power of a post pounder.
- Place a chicken breast/leg with bone in a plastic bag and crush to demonstrate what would happen to your hands if they got in the way of the pounder.
- Demonstrate the power of a loader.
- Fill plastic milk jugs with water and place under loader. Lower loader so that the milk jug squishes to show the power of the loader. A melon (honeydew, cantaloupe or watermelon) may also be used to demonstrate this technique.

## Notes

