Create and follow check-in procedures

In February 2018, a logging company owner was marking off a safe area around a sinkhole on the road. He was walking on what he thought was solid ground when the ground gave way suddenly. He fell 15 feet down into the sinkhole. He spent nearly 24 hours trapped in the hole before he was found by a coworker the next morning. Fortunately, he was not injured and was rescued without incident.

Requirements

WAC 296-54-513:
(5) Each employee must have visual or audible signal contact with another employee as often as this schedule:
   (a) Cutters-30 minutes
   (b) All other employees- 2 hours
(7) You must establish a method of checking the employees in from the woods at the end of each shift, including operators of all movable equipment. Each immediate supervisor must account for their crew.

Recommendations:

• Create, practice, and follow your check-in procedures.
• If your company expects a family member to be the check-in person, ensure they know the procedure to follow and who to contact in the event that someone does not come home.