

The

# TreeWorker

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## High-Vis Clothing

If your crew has exposure to the hazard of vehicular traffic where you're working, you should be aware of fairly new government-enforced requirements for clothing designed to increase your visibility to oncoming drivers.

OSHA and DOT enforce the Federal Highway Administration's *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), Millenium Edition*, which says that workers positioned close to the road *should*, and flaggers *shall* wear high-visibility/reflectorized clothing.

The MUTCD refers to three classes of high-visibility, reflective garment described in the ANSI/ISEA "American National Standard for High-Visibility Apparel." Vests, pants and other reflective apparel will be labeled as meeting the ANSI 107-1999, Class 1, 2 or 3.

With all classes of garment, the apparel background (outer) material has to be either fluorescent orange-red or

fluorescent yellow-green. The retroreflective material color can be orange, yellow, white, silver, yellow-green, or a fluorescent version of these colors.

For daytime, very low-speed situations – an example might be guiding traffic in a parking lot – ANSI/ISEA 107 *Class 1* is appropriate.

For daytime/relatively low speed roadway activity, flaggers and other workers with similar exposure to traffic hazards have to wear safety apparel meeting the standard for *Class 2* risk exposure.

For nighttime/high-speed roadway activities, *Class 3* risk exposure safety apparel must be used.



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