

# **TOOLBOX TALK**

#### **38. BOARDWALKS**

## What?



- A boardwalk is an elevated footpath, walkway or causeway usually built with wooden planks. They enable pedestrians to cross wet, fragile or marshy land. Such timber trackways have existed since at least Neolithic times.
- Boardwalks are often found in wetland nature reserves and provide an accessible path suitable for wheelchair, scooter and pram users.

#### Why?

- Building a boardwalk is a large job which may involve using a range of tools and carrying materials a long distance. Care should be taken to use the correct manual handling techniques and use the tools in a safe manner to avoid injury.
- The linear nature of a boardwalk often means that the group are spread out over a large area, so it is important that members have enough support or supervision.

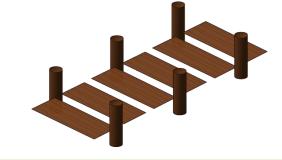


## Do 🗸

- Transport materials in the minibus safely to prevent movement during the journey
- Check the site for uneven ground, wet/boggy terrain or standing water
- ✓ Use appropriate tools for the job e.g. pliers, hammers, drills and handsaws
- Be aware of sharp ends to staples and nails
- Use appropriate lifting and handling techniques
- ✓ Wear gloves to avoid getting splinters
- Keep a tidy work space, and check for dropped staples/nails
- Ensure sharp ends of staples/nails are hammered in thoroughly
- Ensure all staples are hammered in fully when hammering wire onto boardwalks to provide grip

Don't X

- Don't breathe in deeply when emptying postcrete
- Don't wear a glove on the tool hand when using a swinging tool



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