



# Safety Tips

A five-minute training Series for Pest Management Professionals.



## Hearing Protection



Hearing is one of our senses we often take for granted. We use our hearing to communicate, to detect warning devices, to detect what is going on, to do our job, for entertainment, etc. Loss, or even partial loss, would have a much greater impact than we can imagine.

Hearing protection, which should be part of your personal protective equipment, needs to be readily available regardless of what we are doing. Any ambient noises above 85 decibels require hearing protection. How do you determine what is above 85 decibels? If you have to raise your voice to communicate, then most likely you should be wearing hearing protection. Hearing protection can be earplugs or a head set that is designed to block out ambient noise.

These types of noises can be outside or inside. Most of our customers require the use of sound suppression where ambient noises exceed the 85-db thresholds. However, often these noise levels can exist outside. You should wear hearing protection when working around jack hammers, pile drivers, highway and road equipment. Low-flying aircraft, compressors and other heavy equipment are other causes of excess noise.

Areas requiring the use of ear protection may have one or more of the following signs posted. Other signs may also be used.



Carry earplugs with you at all times in case you encounter a situation that requires their use.

**Once you lose your hearing, it's gone for good. Protect your hearing!**