Landscaping – PPE Fatality File



Lack of PPE Leads to Landscaper’s Death in Texas

In a tragic incident at Northwest Vista College in San Antonio, Texas, 55-year-old landscaper Jorge Gonzales lost his life while operating a commercial riding lawnmower. According to reports, Gonzales was crushed by the mower during routine groundskeeping duties. Emergency responders arrived promptly, but he was pronounced dead at the scene.

The accident underscores the critical importance of proper personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety protocols in landscaping operations. While specific details about the PPE Gonzales was using at the time were not disclosed, the incident highlights how the absence or misuse of safety equipment can lead to fatal outcomes. Employers must ensure that all landscaping staff are adequately trained and equipped with appropriate PPE, such as protective footwear, gloves, and machinery safeguards, to mitigate risks associated with heavy equipment operation.

In response to the tragedy, Northwest Vista College expressed deep condolences to Gonzales’s family and colleagues, emphasizing the need for heightened safety measures. The college also offered counseling services to students and staff affected by the incident.

Source: Kens5.com