PROTECTING
Zip-Line Workers

OSHA® Occupational Safety and Health Administration
Recreational zip-lining is a popular activity found at places such as parks, summer camps, amusement parks, and resorts. While many enjoy zip-lines, working around them can be dangerous. Workers may be injured or killed by:

- Falls
- Colliding with riders
- Getting entangled with ropes
- Catching nip points (pinch points) on rotating parts

Your employer is responsible for providing free protective equipment such as:

- Harnesses and lanyards to prevent or stop falls. Harnesses must have the attachment point at the center of the worker’s back near shoulder level.
- Guardrails
- Safety nets
- Helmets
- Gloves
Employers must train workers to:

- Identify fall or other hazards including riders moving down the line.
- Inspect, test and use fall protection systems and protective equipment.
- Always connect to a line when working at heights.
- Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for equipment maintenance.
- Recognize and report equipment defects.
- Safely interact with zip-line riders (e.g., guiding and catching).
Employers must:

- Check the worksite for possible workplace hazards.
- Maintain all equipment.
- Check platforms and lines regularly (e.g., before each work shift and before each use) to identify and fix unsafe conditions.
- Provide protective equipment that properly fits each worker and is in good working condition.
- Ensure that fall protection systems are installed, used and properly maintained.
- Instruct riders on zip-lining procedures that are intended to keep workers safe.

Stay connected to a line when working at heights.
As a worker, you have the right to:

- A safe and healthy workplace. Your employer is required to provide a workplace that does not put you at risk of injury, illness or death.

- Say something about safety concerns without being punished. If you see hazards or an injury, speak up! By law, your employer cannot retaliate against you for exercising your rights.

- Receive information and training in a language and vocabulary you understand. This includes information on workplace hazards, how to prevent them, and the OSHA standards that apply to your workplace.

- Ask OSHA to inspect your workplace if you think it’s dangerous. To request an inspection, call 1-800-321-OSHA (6742).
Do you have a safety concern? Call OSHA. We can help. It’s confidential.