



Facts About Carnival Ride Safety at the 2016 Oregon State Fair

- The Oregon State Fair's top priority is the fun, comfort and safety of fairgoers, which absolutely includes carnival ride safety.
- Ride height requirements and safety instructions as described on signs posted by rides are strictly enforced.
- The new carnival contractor is Rainier Amusements of Portland.
- Rides are inspected every year by a state-approved inspector.
- Notes from those annual inspections are submitted with an application to the State of Oregon for approval.
- Upon State of Oregon approval, safety decals are issued that are placed on every ride, as well as on inflatables, climbing walls, zip lines, etc.
- A state-approved ride inspector travels with the carnival, and will be present every day of the Oregon State Fair.
- Importantly, this state-approved inspector does not inspect Rainer Amusement rides to qualify for the State of Oregon stickers, as that would be a conflict of interest.
- This inspector actually inspects other carnivals in the Pacific Northwest, and Rainier Amusements considers it very valuable to have his knowledge and experience on hand at all times during the Oregon State Fair.
- Rainer Amusements sends a majority of staff members each to year to the NWSC Safety Seminar; a weeklong training during which they complete 40 hours of safety training.
- The Rainier Amusements team conducts daily inspections of each ride every morning. The resulting inspection reports are submitted to the ride supervisor, who then addresses any notes with the safety foreman.
- A given ride is not permitted to open to the public until that daily inspection is completed and proper documentation has been submitted to the Ride Coordinator.
- As a final step before opening to the public, and the Ride Safety Coordinator conducts a double-check inspection.
- Ride operators are trained in best practices for loading and unloading riders, proper operation of safety latches, starting and stopping the ride, and emergency stops.
- Ride operators are prohibited from using cellular phones or eating food.
- Ride operators are trained to constantly look and listen for anything unusual with ride operations.