



RECOGNIZING NOISE HAZARDS

TOOLBOX TALK SERIES – HEARING CONSERVATION

February 2024

Noise hazards are a common and often underestimated threat to our well-being in the workplace. Understanding and recognizing these hazards are crucial steps in safeguarding our hearing health. This handout aims to raise awareness about the potential sources of workplace noise and provide guidance on how to identify and address them.

Why Recognize Noise Hazards?

- Prolonged exposure to high noise levels can lead to permanent hearing damage.
- Recognizing noise hazards is the first step in implementing effective controls to protect our hearing health.

Common Workplace Noise Sources:

1. Machinery and Equipment:

- Identify and be aware of machinery and equipment that generate high noise levels.
- Examples include production machines, power tools, and industrial equipment.



2. Construction and Maintenance Activities:

- Be attentive to noise generated during construction or maintenance tasks.
- Recognize the increased noise levels associated with these activities.



3. Vehicles and Transportation:

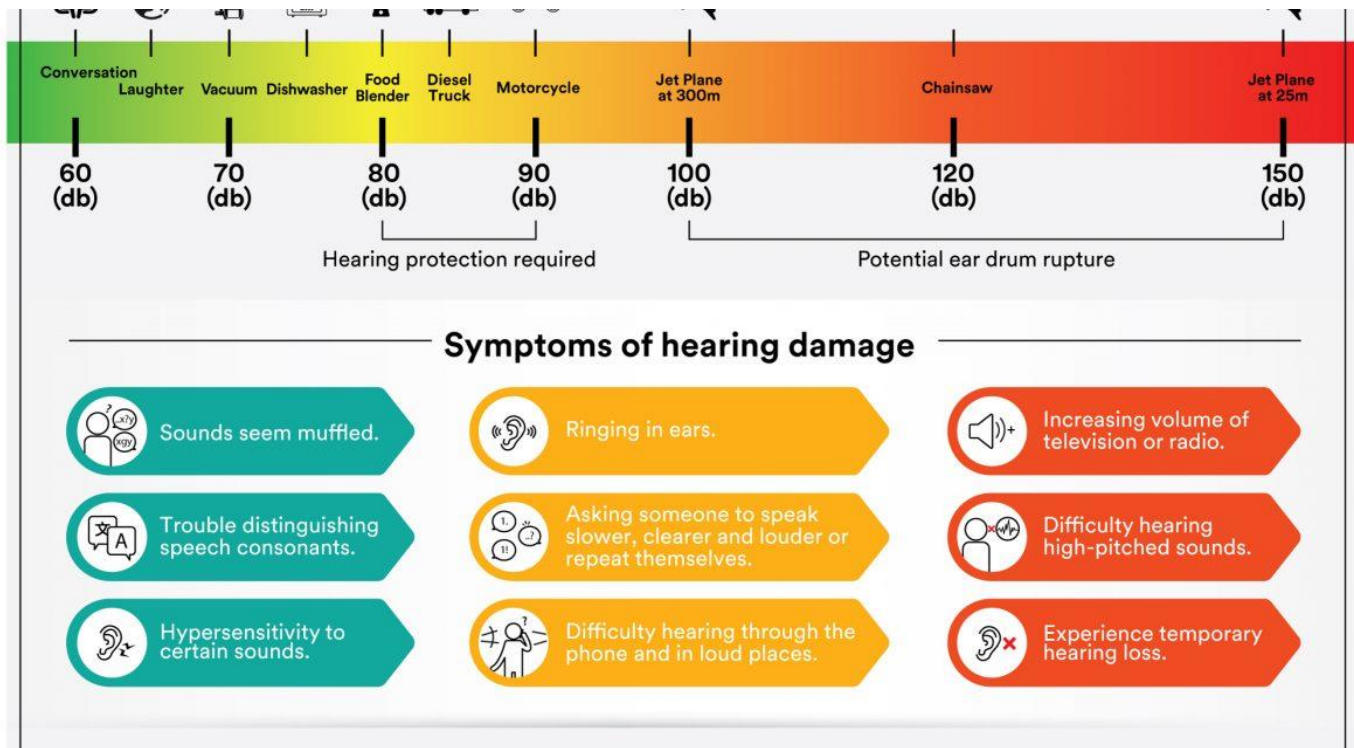
- Consider noise from vehicles, including trucks, forklifts, and other transportation-related activities.
- Be mindful of areas where vehicle movement may contribute to higher noise levels.

4. Tools and Handheld Equipment:

- Pay attention to tools and handheld equipment that produce loud noise.
- Ensure proper training and awareness when using such tools.

Recognizing High-Noise Areas:

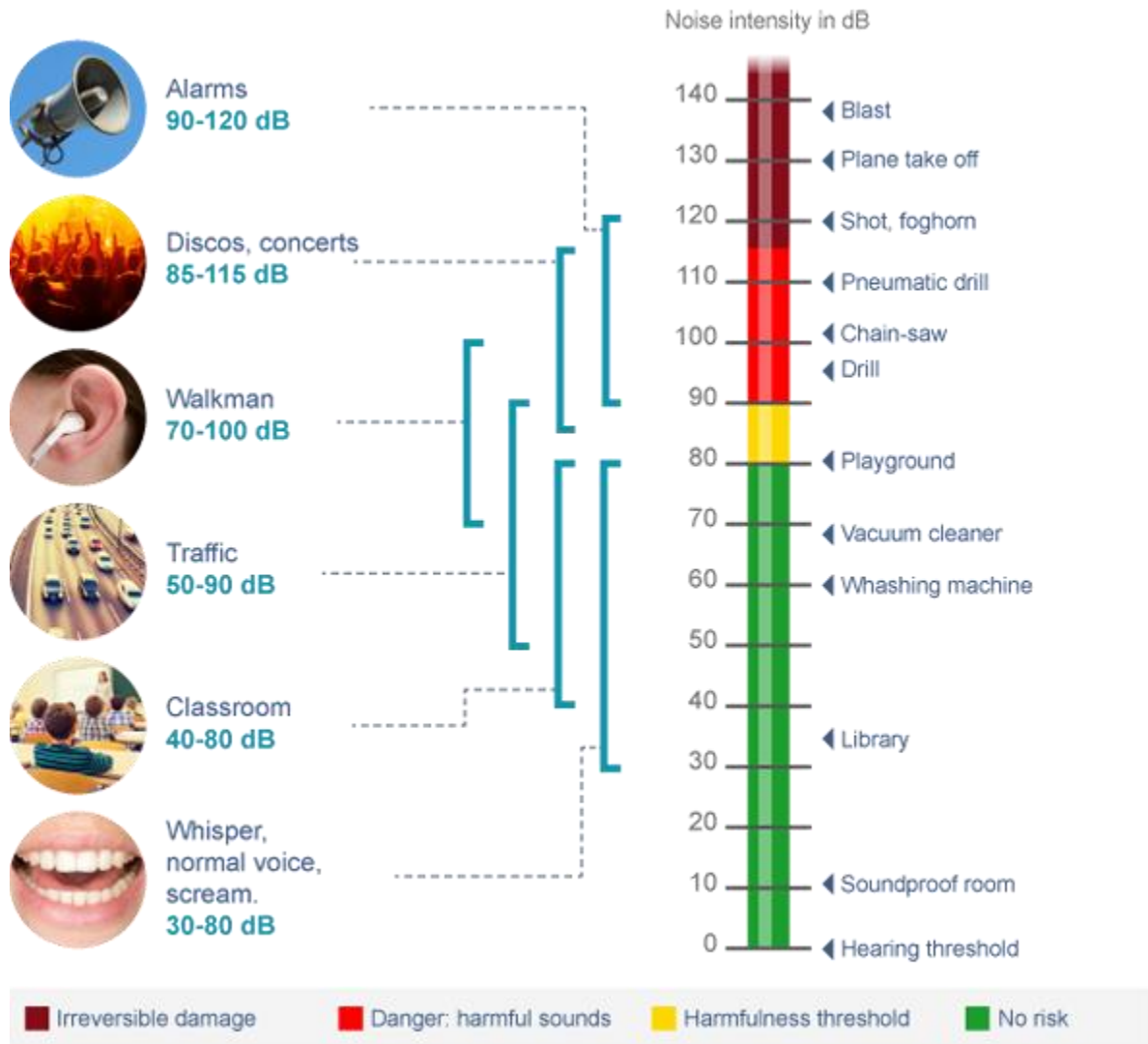
- Certain areas in the workplace may consistently have higher noise levels.
- Identify and acknowledge these areas to implement appropriate controls and safeguards.





Decibel Levels as a Guide:

- Understand the concept of decibels (dB) and how they measure noise levels.
- Be aware of safe and hazardous noise thresholds (85 decibel action level), and take action when levels exceed safety limits.



Observation is Key:

- Be observant and report any unusually loud noises or areas with excessive noise levels.
- Work as a team to identify and address potential noise hazards promptly.



Town of Perinton
Safety and Security
1350 Turk Hill Road, Fairport, NY 14450

Reporting Procedures:

- Report areas with high noise levels to Safety and Security. Safety and Security can conduct noise surveys and noise dosemetry.
- Your proactive reporting plays a crucial role in maintaining a safe work environment.

Conclusion: By recognizing and addressing noise hazards, we contribute to creating a workplace where everyone can work safely and protect their hearing health. Stay vigilant, communicate openly about noise concerns, and let's work together to maintain a healthy and safe working environment.

Remember, your well-being is our top priority.