

# Spring Equipment Prep & Maintenance:

## Checking Tires, Hydraulics & Electrical Systems

### Why It Matters:

Proper maintenance in spring ensures equipment runs safely and reduces the risk of costly breakdowns during planting season.

### Key Safety Points:

- Check tires for cracks, bulges, and proper inflation—blowouts can cause loss of control.
- Inspect hydraulics for leaks or worn hoses; a failure can lead to sudden equipment collapse.
- Test electrical systems: ensure batteries are charged, wiring is intact, and lights function properly.
- Always lockout/tagout equipment before servicing to prevent accidental starts.
- Replace worn-out safety decals and ensure all guards and shields are in place.

### Real-Life Risks:

- Farmers have been injured when hydraulic failures caused equipment to drop unexpectedly.
- Electrical malfunctions have led to tractor fires due to faulty wiring.

### Discussion Questions:

- What equipment on your farm needs the most frequent maintenance?
- How do we ensure hydraulic and electrical issues are caught before they become major problems?