

# **Active Shooter Response – Landscaping Meeting Kit – Spanish**

## **WHAT'S AT STAKE**

Active shooter incidents can occur anywhere, including outdoor environments like landscaping work sites. The consequences can be devastating, making it crucial for landscaping teams to be prepared with a response plan. Understanding the risks and knowing how to react can save lives.

## **WHAT'S THE DANGER**

The danger of active shooter situations comes from the unpredictability and rapid escalation of such incidents. Landscapers, who often work in open spaces with limited cover, may be particularly vulnerable.

### **Specific Risks**

- **Exposure in Open Areas**

Landscapers typically work in open environments, making it difficult to find immediate cover or concealment.

- **Limited Communication**

Outdoor work environments may hinder quick communication of the threat to all team members.

- **Lack of Immediate Law Enforcement Response**

In remote or large outdoor work areas, it may take longer for law enforcement to arrive, increasing the need for effective self-protection measures.

# HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

**1. Run, Hide, Fight:** The standard response protocol recommended by safety experts in the event of an active shooter.

- **Run**

- If you can safely escape the area, do so immediately. Leave your tools and equipment behind.
- Encourage others to leave with you, but do not wait for those who are hesitant.
- Keep your hands visible and follow instructions from law enforcement when encountered.

- **Hide**

- If escaping isn't possible, find a place to hide where the shooter is less likely to find you.
- Choose a location with a lockable door or solid barriers. If indoors, turn off lights and silence your phone.
- Remain quiet and do not open the door for anyone unless you are sure it is law enforcement.

- **Fight**

- As a last resort, and only if your life is in immediate danger, attempt to incapacitate the shooter.
- Use any objects available as improvised weapons, such as tools, rocks, or even landscaping equipment.
- Commit fully to your actions to increase your chances of overpowering the shooter.

## 2. Communication and Alerts

- **Emergency Alerts:** Use mobile phones or radios to immediately alert others on site about the threat. Establish a clear communication plan for emergencies.
- **Designated Meeting Points:** Pre-designate safe locations for regrouping after escaping or when law enforcement arrives.

## 3. Training and Drills

- **Active Shooter Drills:** Conduct regular drills to ensure all team members are familiar with the Run, Hide, Fight protocol

and know how to react quickly in an emergency.

- **Situational Awareness:** Train workers to always be aware of their surroundings and recognize potential signs of an active shooter situation.

#### **4. Cooperation with Law Enforcement**

- **Law Enforcement Response:** Understand that when law enforcement arrives, their primary goal is to stop the shooter. Remain calm, keep your hands visible, and follow all commands from officers.
- **Information Sharing:** Provide law enforcement with as much information as possible, including the location of the shooter, description, and number of victims.

## **FINAL WORD**

By knowing and practicing the Run, Hide, Fight protocol, maintaining communication, and cooperating with law enforcement, landscaping workers can better protect themselves in such emergencies.