

## Hearing Conservation

**T**he Hearing Conservation Program is designed to protect employees from hearing loss that is caused by exposure to hazardous noise.

**Action Level** - 85 A-weighted decibels (dBA) averaged over an eight-hour period. This is the exposure at which an employee must be enrolled in the Hearing Conservation Program.

**Time-Weighted Average (TWA)** - a method used to calculate an employee's daily exposure to a hazardous substance, averaged over an 8-hour workday.

**Hazardous Noise** - exposure to levels of 85 dBA or higher. Examples include Power Lawn Mowers and inside a Boiler Room.

**A-weighted decibel (dBA)** - an expression of the relative loudness of sounds in air as perceived by the human ear.

### Quick Take

- Hearing Loss is irreversible
- Baseline, Annual, and Post-Employment Audiometric Testing will be performed to monitor for Noise Induced Hearing Loss.
- For more information, see our [Hearing Protection Program](#).



## How EHRHS can help?

- Conducts Noise Exposure Evaluations to determine if exposure is at or above 85 dBA for an 8-hour Time Weighted Average (TWA).
- Performs Baseline, Annual, and Post-Employment Audiometric Testing for employees exposed to noises above the action level over an 8-hour TWA to monitor for Noise Induced Hearing Loss.



- Assess how noise exposures can be eliminated, prevented, and controlled.
- Initial and Refresher Training for employees enrolled in the Hearing Conservation Program.
- Selection and use of hearing protectors for employees who will be in identified hazardous noise areas. Determining proper type for specific situations and the training on those types.