Choosing and Using Respiratory Protection

Always use the right respiratory protection for the job.

**Filtration respirators:**
- filter out dusts, fumes and mists.
- are usually disposable dust masks or respirators with disposable filters.
- should be replaced when they become discolored or clogged.

**Air-Purifying respirators:**
- contain replaceable chemical cartridges or canisters that take the contaminant out of circulation.
- may be color coded to help you select the right one.
- may require more than one cartridge to protect against multiple hazards.

**Air-Supplying breathing apparatus:**
- provide clean air from an outside source when the air around you is simply too dangerous to breathe.
- may be self-contained - a portable air tank - or attached to an air hose.

**Using Respirators? Always...**
- Use the right respirator for the job.
- Make sure the face mask fits properly.
- Keep your respirator clean and well maintained.
- Follow safety guidelines.
- Replace filters or cartridges as needed.