

TOOLBOX TALKS

Chain Saws

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Discussion Date: _____

Employee Participants:

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TOPIC: Chain Saws

Before Starting

- Keep the chain sharp and the lubrication reservoir full
- Check chain tension, controls, bolts, and handles to ensure they are functioning properly and that they are adjusted to manufacturer specifications
- Take the saw at least 10 feet from the fueling area and engage the chain brake when starting
- Place the saw on the ground or another firm surface while starting (NEVER drop start)
- Be sure gas powered chain saws are equipped with a protective device to minimize kickback

When Fueling

- Never attempt to fuel a running or HOT saw
- Only use approved containers to transport fuel
- Dispense fuel at least 10 feet away from any potential source of ignition—and NEVER smoke while fueling

While Sawing

- Always wear proper personal protective equipment, including hand, foot, leg, eye, face, hearing, and head protection
- Do NOT wear loose-fitting clothing
- Clear away potential obstructions like dirt, debris, small tree limbs, and rocks from the chain's path. Look for nails, spikes, and other metal objects in the tree before cutting.
- Keep both hands on the saw's handles; maintain secure footing
- Shut off the saw or engage its chain brake when not making a cut
- Ensure the trunk or limbs will not bind against the saw
- Watch for pieces under tension that may spring out when cut
- Always be careful to avoid saw kickback
- Never saw with the tip
- If the saw is equipped with a tip guard, keep it in place

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