

1. Employees will be properly and thoroughly trained before attempting to do any work with or on any chain saw.
2. Employees using the chain saw will also read and understand the Operators Manual before doing any work with the chainsaw.
3. Thoroughly inspect the chain saw before each use for a defective chain, chain tension, fluid levels, and proper lubrication.
4. ALWAYS use both hands when starting a chain saw, one to hold the saw and the other to pull the starter rope.
  - a. Grip the top handle of the saw firmly and pull the starter rope quickly.
  - b. It is not a safe practice to start a chain saw while holding it in mid-air with one hand.
5. ALWAYS start it on the ground on a stable surface.
6. ALWAYS use both hands to control the chain saw.
7. NEVER force a chain saw through a cut.
  - a. If it is properly sharpened and adjusted it will cut, almost by itself (Keep in mind that the hardness of the wood will have a major effect on how quickly it cuts).
8. ALWAYS be watchful for blade-pinching situations and plan accordingly.
  - a. Cut branches at the base of the blade.
  - b. Do not saw with the tip of the blade.
9. USE a high chain speed when reinserting the blade in a cut or removing it from a cut.
10. KEEP the saw teeth sharp so they will cut; dull teeth are more likely to cause a kickback.
11. ALWAYS cut below shoulder height, otherwise the saw is difficult to control and is too close to your face.
12. ALWAYS avoid making cuts with the saw between your legs, always cut with the saw to the outside of your legs.
13. DON'T stand on a log and saw between your feet.
14. ALWAYS stand to one side of the limb you are to cut, never straddle it.
15. ALWAYS keep in mind where the chain will go if it breaks.
  - a. Never position yourself or other people in line with the chain.
16. Keep the chain out of the dirt, debris will fly, the teeth will be dulled, and the chain life shortened considerably.
17. ALWAYS WEAR PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (Safety goggles, hearing protection, hard hat, steel-toed shoes, gloves & tight fitting clothes or cut resistant clothing).