



CHAINSaws

are portable wood cutting tools consisting of a gasoline or electric engine that propels a cutting chain up to 45 mph. Chainsaws are used on campus largely for grounds keeping activities. The main hazard faced in operating a chainsaw is kickbacks. These can occur when the chain's guide bar touches the cutting surface, the wood pinches the chain, or the chain hits a knot or piece of metal resulting in the saw kicking back violently towards the operator. Other hazards include: falling or flying debris, noise, vibrations, the moving chain, and heat stress. Ask your supervisor for training prior to use. To protect yourself and nearby pedestrians follow all best practices:

EXAMPLE BEST PRACTICES:

- Perform a pre-use inspection of the saw and all PPE.
- Wear all required PPE: hard hat, safety goggles or glasses with side-shields, face shield, hearing protection, chaps, steel toe boots, and work gloves.
- NEVER drop start. Hold to the ground with the chain brake engaged, at least 10 ft. from sources of ignition.
- Keep a solid footing and use both hands for control.
- DO NOT position yourself over or under the chain or in the line of fire.
- Do not cut with the tip to reduce chances of kickback.
- Take breaks, stretch, and drink water.
- Limit the frequency and duration of use.
- Follow all manufacturer's guidelines.

WHAT TO DO!

- Receive training before use! Speak to your supervisor.
- Report any injuries to your supervisor immediately!
- Contact EHS with further concerns or questions.
- In an emergency, call **911** and **UOPD** (541-346-2919) for immediate assistance!



Wear all required PPE! Keep chaps clipped on at all times!



Always start two-handed on the ground with the chain brake engaged!



Keep a solid footing and use both hands to maintain control of the saw!

