

Chainsaw Safety

Safety Meeting Packet

Protect Your Workforce



Chainsaws are very useful tools that help reduce work time in certain industries. However, they can be very dangerous in untrained hands. Making sure all employees are well trained and equipped to operate a chainsaw can reduce the opportunity for accidents.

Inspection

Employees should be trained to make sure a chainsaw is in good and working condition before it is used. Inspections need to include checking the chainsaw for any worn or broken parts, checking the chain tension, making sure the chain is sharp, and double-checking that the chain saw is fueled up. If the chain saw needs fuel, the fuel tank should be filled away from the jobsite and only when the chainsaw is cool.

Personal Protective Equipment

Using the proper equipment can help prevent bodily injuries and reduce complications during chainsaw operations:

- Hard hats should be worn to protect employees' heads from falling debris.
- When cutting trees, the wood may splinter. This can injure an employee's eyes, so all employees should wear goggles to prevent such injuries.
- Wear tight safety gloves that allow for a firm grip on the chainsaw. Loose-fitting clothing can get caught in the chainsaw.
- Ear plugs or other ear protection can save workers from loss of hearing due to exposure to loud noises.
- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requires cut-resistant materials on legs and thighs for those using saws.
- Hair should be kept under a hat and away from the line of sight.

- Protective footwear should be worn while on any jobsite (ex: steel-toed boots).
- First-aid kits must be on all sites using chainsaws.

Safety During Use

Consider the following safety tips when using a chainsaw:

- Start chainsaws on the ground. This prevents the chainsaw from kicking back during the startup.
- When cutting down large trees, workers should have a retreat route planned before cutting the tree to avoid the falling timber.
- Workers should maintain safe and secure footing to avoid falling or tripping while working.
- If possible, workers should not use chainsaws overhead or cut above waist level.
- When starting to retreat, workers should release or shut off the throttle. Workers should never move with a running chainsaw.



For more information regarding chainsaw safety, please see the following OSHA standards:

- 29 CFR 1910:266 (e): Chainsaws
 - 29 CFR 1910 Subpart I: Personal Protective Equipment
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Chain Saw Safety

Safety Meeting Attendance Acknowledgement

Company Name _____
 Department / Division _____
 Meeting Date & Time _____ AM PM
 Meeting Location _____
 Name & Title of Individual Conducting Meeting _____

Key Meeting Discussion Points / Important Reminders:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Internal Procedures Reviewed:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

By signing this document, you confirm your attendance at the meeting and acknowledge the issues addressed above!

Employees in Attendance		
(Print): _____	(Print): _____	(Print): _____
(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____
(Print): _____	(Print): _____	(Print): _____
(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____
(Print): _____	(Print): _____	(Print): _____
(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____
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(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____
(Print): _____	(Print): _____	(Print): _____
(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____
(Print): _____	(Print): _____	(Print): _____
(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____	(Sign): _____

Employees not present: _____

Suggestions/Recommendations to improve workplace safety and health: _____

Actions Taken: _____

Manager/Supervisor: _____ Date: _____

Disclaimer:

The information provided above was assembled using multiple resources. However, these materials do not contain ALL the information available regarding the required safety standards under local, provincial, state, or federal law for your industry.
