

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY



SAFETY MEETING OUTLINES

Box 700, Frankfort, IL 60423

815-464-0200

Vol. 22

No. 8

Week of 02/22/2021

Company Name _____ Job Name _____ Date _____

CHAINSAWS — CUTTING EDGE SAFETY

In the next few minutes we'll discuss some safety issues to keep in mind whenever you use a chainsaw. Many of you may have a chainsaw at home, or perhaps you've borrowed one from a neighbor to cut down a tree, cut up firewood, or clean up tree limbs after a storm. Chainsaws are particularly dangerous tools. Even when they **aren't** running, the long, sharp blade can cause a very severe laceration. When it comes to chainsaw safety, you really have to be on the "cutting edge" to prevent injuries.

1. Dress for the job. Wear head protection, sturdy gloves, safety goggles or glasses, hearing protection, and don't forget good work boots — with steel toes if possible. Avoid jewelry and loose or baggy clothing.
2. Read the owner's manual before you start the saw. Make sure that you are familiar and comfortable with all of the controls and that you understand how to operate the saw safely.
3. Never smoke while you are refueling the engine. Let the engine cool down before you refuel it. Always keep a fire extinguisher handy just in case there is a fire.
4. Keep both hands on the saw when the engine is running. Keep the blade pointed away from you and maintain a safe distance from others working around you. It is a good idea to keep pets and children in the house if you are working at home.
5. Sawdust, dirt, and oil build up rapidly, so clean your saw regularly. Pay attention to the chain; make sure that it is sharp and properly tensioned.
6. Watch what you are cutting and where the blade is going. Hold the saw tightly and with both hands. Always be prepared for kickback — a sudden, upward jerk of the blade.

Paying attention, knowing what you are doing, and knowing how to handle the saw are the keys to chainsaw safety. If you are not 100% sure how to use the saw or how to make a cut, ask someone who knows. It is much less embarrassing to ask for help than it is to ask someone to visit you in the hospital.

SAFETY REMINDER

**Working safely is not an accident,
it's an attitude.**

Make sure you have the right attitude for the job.

Special Topics For Your Project _____

Employee Safety Recommendations _____

Reviewed MSDS # _____ Subject _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisor's Signature _____