



# Toolbox Safety Talks

## Chainsaws

- 1) What are the hazards involved with chainsaws?
  - a. Lacerations and/or amputations
  - b. Hearing loss
  - c. Debris in eye or eye sight loss
  
- 2) What hazards should you look for before operating a chainsaw?
  - a. Keep the chain sharp and the lubrication reservoir full
  - b. Check chain tension, controls, bolts, and handles to ensure they are functioning properly and that they are adjusted to manufacturer specifications
  - c. Be sure gas powered chain saws are equipped with a protective device to minimize kickback
  
- 3) What safe practices should be used when operating a chain saw?
  - a. Take the saw at least 10 feet from the fueling area and engage the chain brake when starting
  - b. Place the saw on the ground or another firm surface while starting (NEVER drop start)
  - c. Never attempt to fuel a running or HOT saw
  - d. Always wear proper personal protective equipment, including hand, foot, leg, eye, face, hearing, and head protection
  - e. Do NOT wear loose-fitting clothing
  - f. 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.
  - g. Keep both hands on the saw's handles; maintain secure footing
  - h. Watch for pieces under tension that may spring out when cut
  - i. Never saw with the tip
  - j. If the saw is equipped with a tip guard, keep it in place
  - k. Ensure the trunk or limbs will not bind against the saw
  - l. Shut off the saw or engage its chain brake when not making a cut
  
- 4) Can someone tell me a safe practice that we did not previously cover?
- 5) Are any of our saws missing guards or in need of repair?
- 6) Has anyone had an accident or near miss while operating a chainsaw
- 7) Can someone demonstrate and explain the pre-operation checks that should be completed on a chainsaw?



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**Date Presented:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Presented By:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Attendance Sheet
