

# JOB HAZARD ANALYSIS

Safety Information for Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

## FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

### OPERATING A HEDGE TRIMMER

TASK	HAZARDS	CONTROLS
1. Inspect trimmer/add fuel.	Unit malfunction and blade failure.	Ensure that trimmer controls are working properly and inspect trimmer blades for wear, sharpness and tension.
	Contact with fuel and additives.	Add fuel and additives in a well ventilated space. Wear eye protection and gloves. Clean up small fuel spills (< 1 gallon). With larger spills contact EM&S.
2. Prepare work area.	Tripping hazards.	Clear brush and debris, examine area to establish secure footing.
	Biological hazards.	Inspect work area for poison ivy, bees nests and other biological hazards.
3. Start trimmer	Cutting injuries to hands, feet, body parts.	Start trimmer on ground with foot on rear handle, one hand firmly gripping trimmer handle, other hand pulling starter cord. Maintain secure footing. Wear gloves sturdy work boots and chaps. Make sure co-workers are clear of trimmer.
	Flying debris entering eyes.	Wear safety glasses with side protection.
	Hearing loss.	Wear earplugs or earmuffs.
4. Trimming brush.	Cutting injuries to self.	Maintain proper stance and hold; keep two hands on trimmer, body to the left of trimmer; maintain secure footing. Stop engine for all cleaning, refueling, adjustments, and repair of trimmer.
	Cutting injuries to others.	Maintain safety zone minimum of 15 feet (50 feet for long shaft trimmers).
	Flying debris entering eyes.	Wear safety glasses with side protection.

		Muscle strain, fatigue, dehydration	Utilize proper body position, stretch, take frequent breaks to maintain alertness, stay hydrated.
		Hearing loss.	Wear earplugs or earmuffs.
	6. Carrying trimmer.	Cutting hands, feet body.	Idle trimmer engine when carrying < 100 feet; stop engine when carrying > 100 feet; never carry trimmer over shoulder. Use blade sheath during transport and storage.
	<b>Required Training:</b>	<b>Require Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</b>	
	Operation of trimmer (supervisor responsibility). Review manual. First aid	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Earplugs or Muffs</li> <li>2) Safety Glasses</li> <li>3) No loose fitting clothing and no gauntlet type gloves</li> <li>4) Chaps</li> <li>5) Work boots meeting the requirements of the Facilities Management Safety Shoe Program</li> </ol>	
<b>Other Information:</b>	Manufacturers manual		
<b>Contributors:</b>	SIUE Job Hazard Analysis Committee		
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	For more information about this JHA, contact Emergency Management and Safety, Campus Box 1657, (618) 650-3584 • <a href="http://www.siu.edu/emergencymanagement">www.siu.edu/emergencymanagement</a>		