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**TOOLBOX TALK**

# LANDSCAPING SAFETY



Eye Protection is required when operating powered landscaping equipment.



Always inspect equipment before use. Check for damage, loose parts, and sufficient fuel levels. Make sure the equipment will run properly.

## General Safety

- Use equipment in accordance with manufacturer's instructions
- PPE Required: Hardhat, Hearing Protection, Eye Protection, Safety Toed Shoes
- Wear close fitting clothing without cuffs on gloves and pants
- Do not wear jewelry, keep long hair tied up and secured
- Be sure of footing on slopes and damp surfaces
- Check area for power lines and other hazards
- Review Heat Stress and Hand & Portable Power Tools Factsheets/Toolbox Talks

## Mobile Wood Chipper

- When feeding material into the hopper:
  - Keep feet and hands outside of the hopper at all times
  - Stand off to the side of the hopper when operating the chipper
  - Always place the butt end of brush or limbs in first
  - Place shorter material on top of longer material to prevent placing hands inside the hopper
  - If needed, use a long stick or tool to push shorter material through
  - Ensure no trip hazards are present especially near hopper opening
  - Small materials that can be picked up, should not be run through the chipper

## Weed Whacker

- Remove loose rocks, sticks and other potentially harmful debris from work area
- Over four thousand injuries related to grass trimmers occur each year
- One third of those injuries are eye injuries

## Self propelled/Ride-On Mowers

- Do not defeat guards or safety controls
- Use equipment in accordance with manufacturer's instructions
- Inspect the mower before each use
- Stay away from steep slopes, do not make sharp turns on slopes
- Watch for people, stop work when necessary for pedestrian or vehicle safety
- Perform a general sweep of the area you will be mowing and remove rocks, large sticks, tools, etc. that could be propelled by mower

## Fueling Gas Power Equipment

- Ensure the equipment is "cool" when refueling
- Use metal gas cans with self-closing lids and flame arrestors
- Label gas cans correctly (i.e. 2 cycle gas)

**FACILITIES  
MANAGEMENT  
SAFETY & RISK**

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