

CARETAKER/EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

Ref. Code: G-C-4

TRIMMING SHRUBS AND IVY		
Activity	Hazard Identification	Required Precautions
1. Driving to and from work site.	1. Motor vehicle accident; striking pedestrians, bicyclists, and persons using rollerblades.	1. Wear prescription lenses, if required, and seatbelt. Verify that all equipment on vehicle is secured properly. Stay alert for pedestrians, bicyclists, and persons using rollerblades.
2. Sharpening blades using grinder or file.	2a. Severe cuts and lacerations.	2a. Wear gloves. Handle blades carefully.
	2b. Debris embedded in eye.	2b. Wear safety glasses.
3. Using electric or gas-powered clippers.	3a. Severe cuts and lacerations.	3a. Make sure tools are in proper working condition. Keep blades a safe distance away from yourself and coworkers. Wear gloves.
	3b. Getting clippers caught in clothing.	3b. Keep a safe distance away from the clippers. Do not wear loose clothing.
	3c. Electric shock; electrocution.	3c. Inspect power cord before use. Plug tools into GFCI-protected outlets. Do not use if work area is wet. Keep cord out of work area. Do not have too much cord slack.
	3d. Tripping over power cord.	3d. Keep cord out of work area. Do not have too much cord slack.
	3e. Spilling or splashing oil or gas on self or in eyes.	3e. Wear safety glasses. Fill oil and gas tanks carefully to avoid splashing and spilling.
	3f. Debris in eyes and face; poked in eyes.	3f. Wear safety glasses.
	3g. Loss of hearing.	3g. Wear ear protection.
	3h. Burns.	3h. Make sure muffler shield is functioning properly. Keep muffler away from self.

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4. Using stepladder.	4. Ladder collapsing; slipping/falling from ladder.	4. Inspect ladder before use. Use ladder of proper height. Make sure ladder is properly assembled and locked and standing on level ground. Always have coworker hold ladder if it is not possible to put ladder on level ground. Do not exceed weight limit for ladder. Do not stand on top of ladder or on top rung. Do not lean to trim shrubs; move the ladder.
5. Using extension ladder.	5. Ladder collapsing; slipping/falling from ladder.	5. Inspect ladder before use. Verify that ladder is properly assembled and that it is securely positioned on level ground. Use 1'-4' rule. Use OSHA decal to verify that ladder is in the proper position.
6. Trimming ivy.	6. Stings from bees, hornets, and wasps.	6. Before beginning work, inspect area and spray if necessary. Seek medical attention for any stings.
7. Using hand tools such as hand saw, loppers, and pruners.	7a. Severe cuts and lacerations; punctures.	7a. Keep tools in good condition and properly sharpened. Inspect tools before use. Wear gloves. Keep blade a safe distance from yourself and coworkers. Stay alert and know where you are cutting. Use normal caution required for all hand tools.
	7b. Blisters.	7b. Wear gloves.
	7c. Poked in eyes by branches; debris in eyes.	7c. Wear safety glasses.
8. Cleaning up brush and putting it into truck using rake and pitchfork.	8a. Blisters.	8a. Wear gloves.
	8b. Back strain.	8b. Do not pick up too much at once.
	8c. Hitting coworker with tools or debris.	8c. Maintain a safe distance from coworkers.

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	8d. Debris in eyes.	8d. Wear safety glasses.

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9. Forking brush and debris out of pickup truck.	9a. Back strain.	9a. Use dump truck whenever possible to avoid need to fork debris out of truck.
	9b. Falling when getting into and out of back of truck.	9b. Step on tailgate to get in and out of truck.
	9c. Blisters.	9c. Wear gloves.
	9d. Debris in eyes.	9d. Wear safety glasses.
10. Putting tools in and taking tools from back of dump truck.	10. Falling when getting into or out of truck.	10. Use step to get on and off back of truck.