

GROUNDS / MOVERS  
**HORTICULTURIST**  
 Ref. Code: G-H-11

PRUNING SHRUBS AND SMALL TREES		
Activity	Hazard Identification	Required Precautions
1. Driving to and from work site.	1. Motor vehicle accident; striking pedestrians, bicyclists, or 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. Using manual pruners, saws, etc.	2. Severe cuts and lacerations; pokes; blisters; debris in eyes.	2. Wear gloves and safety glasses. Wear long-sleeve shirt when trimming thorny shrubs. Keep hands away from blades.
3. Using pole saw to cut tree branches.	3. Getting hit on head by branch; dropping heavy branch on toes.	3. Wear a hard hat. Make a proper cut; undercut first and then cut off branch. Wear steel-toed shoes.
4. Working near hives or nests.	4. Stings from bees, wasps, and hornets.	4. Before trimming bushes, use rake or other handle to shake bush. If bees fly out, spray area before beginning work.
5. Using electric shears.	5a. Electric shock; electrocution.	5a. Plug tools into GFCI-protected outlets. Inspect cord before use. Do not use electric tools if work area is wet.
	5b. Tripping over or cutting power cord.	5b. Keep cord out of work area.
	5c. Loss of hearing.	5c. Wear ear protection.
	5d. Severe cuts and lacerations; punctures.	5d. Wear safety glasses, gloves, and steel-toed shoes.
6. Using gas-powered chain saw.	6a. Severe cuts and lacerations.	6a. Make sure tools are in proper working condition. Keep blades a safe distance from yourself and coworkers. Wear gloves.
	6b. Chain saw caught in clothing.	6b. Keep blade at a safe distance. Do not wear loose clothing.
	6c. Spilling or splashing oil or gas on self or in eyes.	6c. Wear safety glasses. Fill oil and gas tanks carefully to avoid splashing and spilling.

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	6d. Debris in eyes; poked in eyes.	6d. Wear safety glasses.
	6e. Loss of hearing.	6e. Wear ear protection.
	6f. Saw kicking back.	6f. Avoid having tip of chain saw coming into contact with tree or branch. Hold saw firmly with two hands.
7. Using stepladder.	7. Ladder collapsing; slipping/falling from ladder.	7. 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. Use orchard (tripod) ladder whenever possible as it is more stable on uneven 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.
8. Putting brush into truck.	8. Scratches; pokes.	8. Wear gloves, safety glasses, and long-sleeve shirt.