Before Start a Chain Saw

- Check controls, chain tension, and all bolts and handles to ensure that they are functioning properly and that they are adjusted according to the manufacturer’s instructions.
- Make sure that the chain is always sharp and the lubrication reservoir is full.
- Start the saw on the ground or on another firm support. Drop starting is never allowed.
- Start the saw at least 10 feet from the fueling area, with the chain’s brake engaged.

Fuel a Chain Saw

- Use approved containers for transporting fuel to the saw.
- Dispense fuel at least 10 feet away from any sources of ignition when performing construction activities. **No smoking during fueling.**
- Use a funnel or a flexible hose when pouring fuel into the saw.
- Never attempt to fuel a running or HOT saw.

Chain Saw Safety

- Clear away dirt, debris, small tree limbs and rocks from the saw’s chain path. Look for nails, spikes or other metal in the tree before cutting.
- Shut off the saw or engage its chain brake when carrying the saw on rough or uneven terrain.
- Keep your hands on the saw’s handles, and maintain secure footing while operating the saw.
- Proper personal protective equipment must be worn when operating the saw, which includes hand, foot, leg, eye, face, hearing and head protection.
- Do not wear loose-fitting clothing.
- Be careful that the trunk or tree limbs will not bind against the saw.
- Watch for branches under tension, they may spring out when cut.
- Gasoline-powered chain saws must be equipped with a protective device that minimizes chain saw kickback.
- Be cautious of saw kick-back. To avoid kick-back, do not saw with the tip. If equipped, keep tip guard in place.
Always wear a face shield, goggles, or safety glasses.

Grab the front handlebar with your left hand, like you mean it, and keep your elbow unbent for best control.

Before cutting be sure the saw is running at top speed; then begin cutting at the base of the guide bar!

Use saws equipped with a kickback guard/chain brake.

Stand on solid ground with your weight balanced on both feet in this diagonal stance.

Be sure to keep the chain sharp.

Never let the tip of the saw hit the ground, as this causes kickback and dulls the chain.

Never stand directly behind the saw blade.

Be safety-minded!!