

SAU-56 Somersworth School District	<b>SAFE WORK PROCEDURE</b>	<b>Saw, Chain</b> Page 1 of 2
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LOCATION OF WORK	WRITTEN BY:	APPROVED BY:	DATE	LAST REVISION
All Schools	Karl Ingoldsby	Somersworth School District JLMC	3/4/2020	New

POTENTIAL HAZARDS	PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)	ADDITIONAL RECCOMENDATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awkward postures - lifting, reaching, bending Chemicals – soldering fumes</li> <li>• Forceful exertions – using saw, moving wood</li> <li>• Repetitive movements</li> <li>• Vibration – increases with time</li> <li>• Sharp points / edges – cuts - saw chain, wood</li> <li>• Items falling / dropping – wood, branches</li> <li>• Surfaces causing – trips, slips, uneven surfaces</li> <li>• Moving machinery - chain blade</li> <li>• Chemicals - wood dust</li> <li>• Noise - cutting with saw</li> <li>• Combustibles / flammables – refueling</li> <li>• Other - kickbacks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Face shield</li> <li>• Hearing protection</li> <li>• Gloves</li> <li>• Safety footwear</li> <li>• Safety pants/Chaps</li> <li>• Disposable Respirator (N95) if dusty conditions</li> <li>• Do not wear anything dangling such as hood strings or other dangling clothing or jewelry</li> <li>• Hard hat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lift / manual materials handling training</li> <li>• Operators manual</li> <li>• In house training</li> <li>• Chain saws must have a functioning chain brake</li> <li>• Saw must be off when being carried</li> <li>• Power unit must have a quick shut-off</li> </ul>

**Note:** Signs and symptoms of a musculoskeletal injury (MSI) can include pain, burning, swelling, stiffness, numbness/tingling, and/or loss of movement or strength in a body part. Report these to your supervisor.

### **SAFE WORK PROCEDURE**

1. Ensure any loose fitting clothing is tucked in appropriately
2. Pre inspect saw for possible defects before using. Check switches, chain guards / catcher, chain slack and condition (see manufacturers guidelines)
3. Ensure you know how to operate the chain break
4. Visually inspect the area for hazards or obstacles which could be affected by your activities. Complete a pre-felling plan for the tree or branch to be cut
5. When cutting materials, ensure you have a firm stance with good footing for good balance. Try to keep your back straight. Bend hips and knees rather than bending at the waist. Avoid twisting your back by instead changing your foot placement
6. Hold the saw securely with both hands and try not to force the saw when cutting. Keeping the blade sharp and well-oiled will reduce cutting effort significantly
7. Do not saw items over your head
8. Ensure that your body parts will never be close to or in the path of the saw
9. Always ensure the materials you are cutting are secure. Do not use the saw on loose branches or other loose debris lying on the ground
10. Do not attempt to un-jam the saw while it is running
11. Never leave a running saw unattended.
12. Ensure the chain brake is engaged when walking or if you set the chainsaw down. Never walk with your finger on the trigger
13. Let machine cool for at least 10 minutes or according to operating manual before refueling. Refuel in a well ventilated area

### **REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS**

- Lab 1403.41 Noise exposure
- Lab 1403.43 Personal Protective Equipment
- Lab 1403.50 Respiratory Protection
- Lab 1403.64 Tree Care Operations
- Equipment Safety Manual