



## SAFETY OPERATING PROCEDURES

# Chainsaw - Petrol Operated

**Student use of this machine will require direct supervision**



**HEAD  
PROTECTION  
MUST BE WORN**



**HAND  
PROTECTION  
MUST BE WORN**



**FOOT  
PROTECTION  
MUST BE WORN**



**EYE & HEARING  
PROTECTION  
MUST BE WORN**



**SUNSCREEN  
MUST BE WORN**



**PROTECTIVE  
CLOTHING  
MUST BE WORN**

### PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

1. Ensure the machine is clean to facilitate detection of loose, worn or defective parts and other safety hazards.
2. Inspect fuel lines, tank, and area around carburetor for fuel leaks. Do not operate unit if leaks are found.
3. Faulty equipment must not be used. Report suspect machinery immediately.
4. Check the effectiveness of chainbrakes and operating controls.
5. Ensure safety guards and other safety devices are fitted, secure and functioning.
6. Check condition of the anti-vibration mountings of the handles.
7. Ensure chain is sharp and correctly tensioned.

### OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

1. When starting the chainsaw on the ground:
  - Ensure no obstructions are present particularly near the tip of the guide bar.
  - Place the right foot through the rear handle and place the left hand on the front handle.
  - Operate the starter with the right hand.
2. Keep a firm grip on the chainsaw with both hands, with the thumb of the hand holding the front handle wrapped around the handle.
3. Maintain a proper balance and secure footing when operating the chainsaw.
4. Start the cut with the saw chain rotating at full speed and the spiked bumper in contact with the wood.
5. Be aware of the guidebar nose at all times when the saw chain is in motion.
6. Pay full attention to the operation and be alert for movement of the material being cut.
7. Be alert to situations that may cause material to pinch the top of the saw chain.
8. Apply chainbrake when saw is at rest.
9. Avoid the accumulation of debris.
10. Never use a chainsaw over shoulder height.
11. Allow a hot chainsaw to cool before refilling the fuel tank.

### HOUSEKEEPING

1. Remove any foreign material from motor and guards.
2. Keep the work area and implement shed in a clean and tidy condition.

### POTENTIAL HAZARDS

- |                  |                 |                |                               |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| ■ Kick-back      | ■ Push-back     | ■ Pull-in      | ■ Loose clothing entanglement |
| ■ Rotating chain | ■ Flying debris | ■ Trip hazards | ■ Noise                       |

This SOP should be used in conjunction with Education Policy and Procedures Register (EPPR) -  
HLS-PR-012: Curriculum Activity Risk Management Modules

*Acknowledgement: Much of the information for this document has been sourced from content kindly provided by Department of Education & Children's Services SA website : Machine Guarding - Safe Operating Procedures.*

Date of last review \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_