FAQ – Hedgetrimmer Use

What Personal Protective Equipment is required?
When operating this equipment wear:
• Hearing protection ear muffs or ear plugs
• Safety goggles or face screen with prescription glasses
• Snug fitting and durable clothing, jean or long pants no shorts or cut-offs
• Heavy duty non-slip gloves
• Safety boots
• Do not wear clothing/items that could get caught in equipment

What should I do prior to operating?
• Prior to operating any equipment review the operator’s manual to familiarize yourself with the equipment.
• Inspect the equipment as outlined in operator’s manual including the following:
  • Check trimmer for loose screws, bolts, or damaged/broken parts replace broken parts
  • Clear the work area of bystanders
  • Inspect the shrubs for hidden wires (Christmas lights), posts and trash

How do I safely operate the equipment?
• Keep people away from starting and work areas
• Do not operate trimmer above chest height
• If working on taller shrubs use a stepladder.
• Keep your hands and body away from the blades.
• Work slowly and plan your cuts before you make them
• Stop the engine before putting the trimmer down
• Always shut equipment off before leaving it unattended
• Take occasional rest breaks to avoid fatigue

How do I safely add fuel?
When adding fuel observe the following
• If required mix fuel and oil as per operator’s manual.
• Always mix fuel outdoors
• Always shut off the motor
• Let the motor cool before adding fuel
• Do not smoke or place hot objects near fuel
• Open fuel cap slowly to release pressure gently
• Tighten fuel cap carefully after refueling
• Move the machine away from the area of refueling before trying to restart.
• If fuel is spilled on machine, wipe up the spillage and allow for the remaining fuel to evaporate
• If fuel is spilled on your clothes change your clothing and wash any parts of your body that has come in contact with the fuel
• If fuel is leaking from the machine remove from use until repaired.

What are some of the hazards?
• Wearing loose clothing that could result in getting caught in moving parts
• Hearing loss by failing to wear hearing protection properly
• Suffering eye of face injury from not using eye and face protection
• Electrical shock from cutting an electrical cord accidently
• Strain injury from twisting, use your legs/arms to position the weed eater.
• To prevent strain injury pre-stretch before work.

What if I have other concerns?
If you have any concerns or questions speak to your:
1. Supervisor,
2. Health and safety representative, or
3. Contact EHS