FAQ – Pressure Washer Use

What Personal Protective Equipment is required?
When operating this equipment wear:
• Hearing protection ear muffs or ear plugs
• Vented chemical safety goggles
• 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 hose for leaks
  • Check spray gun and nozzle for leaks
  • Clean debris from machine

How do I safely operate the equipment?
• Only operate out doors
• Do not use in carports, porches, or enclosures
• Keep at least 5 feet of clearance on all sides.
• Work from a stable surface
• Exercise caution as puddles and slippery surfaces can form while using washer
• Firmly hole spray gun with both hands to avoid injury when there is kick back.
• Never pull starter cord without relieving spray gun pressure
• Pull cord slowly
• After each start attempt discharge spray gun to relieve pressure.
• Do not allow pressure stream to make contact with skin.
• Never leave spray gun unattended while machine is operating

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 injury due to splash of chemicals
• Skin damage, tissue damage or amputation due to contact with pressure stream.
• Slip and fall due to work on wet and slippery surfaces
• CO poisoning due to use in enclosed space

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