FAQ – Weed eater Use

What Personal Protective Equipment is required?
When operating this equipment wear:
• Hearing protection ear muffs or ear plugs
• Safety glasses 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 head and guard for damage or cracks, replace if damaged or cracked.
  • Check all covers for correct fitting.
  • Check for loose parts
  • Check the throttle ensuring it springs back to idle position.

How do I safely operate the equipment?
• Keep people away from starting and work areas
• Check working area for debris such as stones, glass or other materials.
• When starting use a solid surface in an open area.
• Maintain good balance and secure footing.
• Adjust the harness and hand grips to suit your working position.
• Stop the engine before putting the weed eater down
• Always shut equipment off before leaving it unattended
• Keep reach in a comfortable range, walk closer to work if required.

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
• Being stuck in the arms or legs by thrown debris when wearing shorts
• 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