

### 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 or 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