

Arborist: Safety Checklist

General Operations

- Are all employees properly trained in the safest way to perform their jobs?
- Are all employees in visual or audible contact with another employee?
- Are all employees who are exposed to overhead hazards wearing hard hats?
- Are all chain saw operators wearing all required personal protective equipment?
- Is all equipment located a safe distance from other equipment and employees?
- Are there adequate handholds and footing surfaces on equipment?

Felling Operations

- Is a minimum safe distance being maintained between felling and closest employee?
- Are all lodged and hung trees pulled down as soon as possible?
- Are all chain saw safety devices present and operational?
- Are overhead hazards checked before felling?
- When manually felling, are high wind conditions being avoided?
- Is a clear path of retreat for manual fellers being provided?
- Are chain saws being used properly to prevent saw kickback?
- Are manual felling cuts resulting in directional felling?
- Is domino tree felling prohibited and are pusher trees being used?
- Are the protective cab structure and guards on mechanical cutters in place?

Manual Limbing and Bucking

- Is the work area clearly identified and is it free from random equipment movements?
- Are limbers/buckers determining direction of limbing or log movement before cutting?
- Are employees cutting and removing spring poles safely?
- Are chain saws being controlled during cuts and travel between cuts?

Pre-Climbing Inspections

- Are the ropes, safety lanyards, and climbing saddles being inspected for any defects?
- Are only double-locking snap hooks being used?