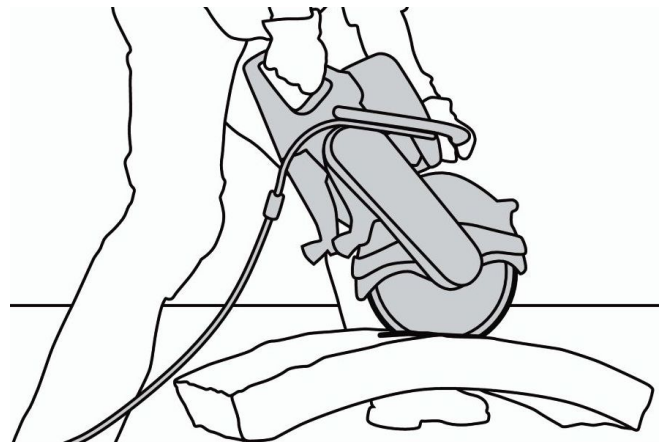


TST #144-B

Hand Saw Safety

Operators must read the manufacturer's operating manual and must understand the safety requirements for each piece of equipment they operate. When hand sawing, operators must always wear personal protective equipment as required by local, state or federal standards including, but not limited to, safety glasses, face shield, leather non-slip steel-toed footwear, hearing protections and head protection. A high-visibility vest and respirator shall be worn when required. The tips below should be followed by anyone operating a hand saw:

- Hand saws are only to be used by persons who are properly trained in their use.
- Hand saws are only to be used by persons who are physically able to use them.
- Brief rest periods should be allowed as necessary to prevent operator fatigue.
- Saws should be kept in good working order and the blade should be secured tightly and checked periodically for tightness and blade wear.
- Blade guards should always be in place and cutting should be done in a direction that shields the operator from cutting debris.
- When working from work platforms, proper safety rules must be followed. Lifts or scaffolds are preferred as work platforms with hand sawing.
- Gas powered saws should only be used outdoors or in areas with adequate ventilation.
- Electric, hydraulic or air powered saws are suitable for indoor and outdoor use. Electric saws should be properly grounded and include a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI). All cords and connections should be kept out of water.
- Hand Saws should be used in conjunction with a dust suppression system.
- Hand saws should not be used above the shoulder height of the operator and should be used with both hands on the saw.



This TST refers to quickie saws, cut-off saws and circular saws. For chain saw safety, refer to TST 147.

Hand Saw Safety Quiz

The following statements should be answered with "True" or "False." Answers below.

1. As long as you are wearing a hard hat, it is safe to operate a hand saw.
2. Hi-visibility vests and respirators should be worn when required.
3. It is safe to cut in any direction with a hand saw.
4. Operators should avoid using gas powered saws indoors or in areas with poor ventilation.
5. Hand saws should be used continuously until the operator cannot cut any more.

Employee Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Answers:

1. False
2. True
3. False
4. True
5. False