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Safe Chainsaw Operation seminar

Abstract:

Chainsaws are among the most useful and dangerous outdoor power tools owned and operated by landowners. Severe injuries including deep, jagged lacerations embedding foreign substances resulting from direct contact with the moving saw chain; strains and sprains from improper handling; contusions, concussions and/or fractures caused by being struck by objects while cutting. Improper long-term use can result in loss of hearing and diminished nerve sensitivity.

While all danger cannot be eliminated, training and instruction have proven to be an effective way to mitigate the risk of injury to a chainsaw user. I present an on-site workshop of not more than 2 hours to instruct users in safe chainsaw operation to reduce the risk of injury. This session is intended as an introduction to chainsaw use or as a refresher for experienced users. Participants will NOT use a chainsaw as part of the seminar.

Course Outline:

1. Safe Equipment
 1. Chainsaw Safety Features
 2. Common Injuries and their causes
 3. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
2. Safe Operation
 1. Starting
 2. Use – reactive forces
 3. Maintenance
 4. Demonstration of safety features and PPE
 5. Situational awareness
3. Safe Cutting Techniques
 1. Identifying and Releasing Stresses
 2. Open Face Notch
 3. Plunge Cut & Use of Wedges

Cost:

Funding for this program is provided by the New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health (NYCAMH) with funds from New York State's Department of Health (DOH).

Scheduling should be arranged as far in advance as possible and not less than 2 weeks prior to the event.

