## **Environmental Health and Safety**

### August 14, 2015



# Weed Eater Safety

A weed eater is a useful tool for clearing unwanted plants and maintaining your lawn. Weed eaters can also be dangerous when used improperly, so it is important to be aware of the maintenance and safety precautions when using a weed eater. These tips will help inform you of the proper ways to clean and operate a weed eater.

#### Maintenance

- Refer to your weed eater's product manual.
- Keep weed eaters clean. Most can be washed with a cloth and dish soap.
- Some may need a regular oil change.
- Remove and clean dirty air filters.
- Replace clogged fuel filters.
- Regularly clean the spark plug and check if it needs repairs or replacement.

#### Resources

Weed Eater Safety Tips

Maintain your Weed Eater

How to Use a Weed Eater

Created by R. Benjamin



#### Safety Tips

- Wear thick boots, gloves and safety goggles.
- Avoid loose-fitting clothes, and keep arms and legs covered.
- Do not operate a weed eater within 30-60 feet of another person.
- Wear an over-the-shoulder harness for back support.
- Stand straight when operating a weed eater.
- Use both hands and keep a tight grip.

## Don't learn safety by accident