Environmental Health and Safety

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Tree Care Safety

Tree care includes pruning, tree removal, plant health care, and much more. These tasks are associated with hazards that can be avoided with the proper preparation and safety protocols. Learn what tree care workers must do in order to stay safe while maintaining trees.



Hazards

- Falls
- Electrocutions
- Being struck by trees

Protect Yourself

- You should have with the proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the job. This includes:
 - ♦ Hard hat
 - ♦ Climbing spurs
 - ♦ Harness
 - ♦ Gloves
 - Safety glasses or goggles

Task Safety Duties

- Check the worksite for hazards.
- Make sure climbing gear is correct for the size of the tree.
- Ensure that all equipment is in good working condition.
- Be aware of power lines that are energized and can electrocute workers.
- Ensure that all workers can see and hear each other.
- Check falling tree hazards before beginning work.
- Work at least 10 feet away from power lines, or have the power company de-energize and ground the power line.
- Secure a drop zone marked with cones that is at least twice the height of the tree.

Resources

OSHA: Tree Care Industry

Tree Care Work: Know the Hazards

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