

Risk Assessment Summary Sheet

Ref. 057

Activity/Workplace; Use of Wood Chipper

Risk Assessment						Hazard of Activity: Use of wood chipper (tree branches)				
Hazard	Risk	Risk Group	Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating before controls	CONTROL MEASURES	Responsible Person	Likelihood	Severity	Risk Rating after controls
Contact with cutting /chipping blades and/or moving parts	Cuts, lacerations, amputation-serious injury	Operator, other persons in the vicinity and General public	3	4	12	All equipment must be visually inspected before each use and maintained at regular intervals, this will ensure noise & vibration levels are kept to a minimum. Damaged/defective equipment must be taken out of service and labelled "DO NOT USE" until repaired. Consult manufacturers manual and be familiar with all machine controls and emergency stops. Never place hands in vicinity of cutting blades or moving parts, switch off power and isolate machine before attempting to unblock cutting blades. Always maintain secure footing and a well balanced stance, care must be taken on slippery/wet surfaces. Never wear loose or baggy clothing, Always wear correct PPE including eye protection, face shields, hearing protection, safety footwear and hard hat. Erect signage and exclusion zone to prevent other person entering the work area and being exposed to the risks associated with the work activities. Never leave machines unattended. Switch off when not in use and during refuelling. Do not smoke during refuelling operation and ensure fuel is stored correctly. Run chippers in well-ventilated areas.	operator /supervisor	1	3	3
Flying particles – wood chips, fragments	Facial or eye injuries to operator or other in the vicinity		3	4	12		1	3	3	
Blockages/ entanglement of objects in cutting blades or moving parts	Operator coming in contact with cutting blades causing injury		3	4	12		1	3	3	
Excessive Noise	Hearing damage/ disturbance to others		3	3	9		1	2	2	
Excessive Vibration	Operator exposed to risk of HAVS		3	3	9		1	2	2	
Operator wearing loose clothing	Entanglement or drawing in of operator into moving parts causing serious injury		3	4	12		1	3	3	
Defective Equipment / guards not in position/ missing	Operator exposed to risk of injury		3	4	12		1	2	2	
Manual Handling of machine and large branches	Muscle strains and sprains		3	3	9		1	2	2	
Working in public areas	Members of the public exposed to risks		3	3	9		1	3	3	

