

LOCATION OF WORK	WRITTEN BY:	APPROVED BY:	DATE:	LAST REVISION
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HAZARDS PRESENT	PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)	ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe cuts to limbs Fuel Fire Muscle strains & back injuries Kickbacks Toxic exhaust fumes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety glasses Protective footwear Protective gloves Long pants Long sleeves Hearing protection High vis. vest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hedge trimmer orientation Tie back long hair

SAFE WORK PROCEDURE

CHECK THE GENERAL CONDITION OF THE GAS TRIMMER:

1. Check the trimmer for signs of oil or gasoline leaks. Notify your supervisor if leaks are found.
2. Look for signs of damage.
3. Check the throttle trigger, throttle trigger interlock, stop switch and cutting tool. The throttle trigger must move freely and always spring back to the idle position.
4. Check that the spark plug boot is securely mounted on the spark plug – a loose boot may cause arcing that could ignite combustible fumes and cause a fire.
5. Inspect for loose parts (nuts screws, etc) and for cracked, bent warped or damaged blades.
6. Check the fuel level and fill if necessary. The gas trimmer uses an oil – gasoline mixture for fuel. Before fueling, clean the filler cap and area around it to ensure that no dirt falls into the tank. Shake the oil-fuel mixture before pouring.

CHECK THE AREA TO BE TRIMMED:

1. Clear the area of debris anything that can be picked up by the blades and thrown is a potential hazard to the operator and others.
2. Watch for hedges/ trees / shrubs next to or against wire fences. Do not touch the wire with the blades
3. When working close to the ground make sure no sand, grit or stones get between the cutter blades.
4. Look for power lines, wires or cables. The trimmer is not insulated against electric shock. Do not operate the tool in the vicinity of any power wires.
5. Use lopping shears or a chainsaw to cut out thick branches first.

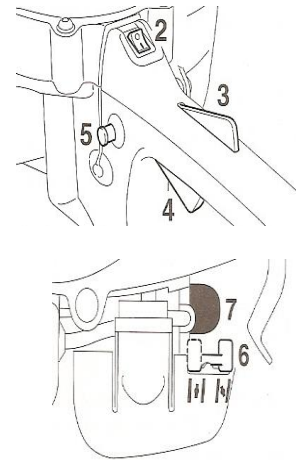
CONTROL OF THE TRIMMER:

1. Always hold the unit firmly with both hands on the handles while you are working.
Right – hand use – put your right hand on the rear handle and the left hand on the front handle
Left – hand use – put your left hand on the rear handle and the right hand on the front handle
2. Never attempt to operate the trimmer with one hand.
3. Do not overreach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times to prevent muscle strain and back injuries.

- Never carry or transport the trimmer with the cutter blades moving. It must be carried only in the horizontal position. Grip the front handle and keep the hot muffler away from your body and the cutter blades behind you.

STARTING THE ENGINE:

- Operate and start the trimmer outdoors in a well ventilated area. The trimmer produces toxic exhaust fumes. Always stand so that the wind directs any exhaust fumes away from the operator.
- Move the blade lock lever forwards against the stop
- Move the stop switch (2) to I
- Press down the throttle trigger interlock lever (3), Squeeze the throttle trigger (4) and hold in that position.
- Press in the starting throttle lock (5)
- Release the throttle trigger, interlock lever and starting throttle lock, this is the starting throttle position.
- Set the choke lever (6):
 - Cold start to the left position
 - Warm start to the right position
- Press the fuel pump bulb (7) at least five times.
- Place the machine on the ground.
- Remove the blade scabbard. Make sure that the cutting blades are not touching the ground or any other obstacles
- Hold the machine firmly on the ground with your left hand on the front handle and press down. Pull the starter grip slowly with your right hand until you feel it engage and then give it a brisk strong pull. Do not pull out the starter rope all the way. Guide the grip slowly back into the housing to rewind it.



STOPPING THE TRIMMER:

- Move the stop switch to "0".
- The cutter blades continue to move for a short period after the throttle trigger is released. Do not touch the blades until they have stopped moving.

CUTTING WITH THE TRIMMER:

- Use lopping shears or a chainsaw to cut out thick branches first.
- Cut both sides of the hedge / tree / shrub first, then cut the top.
- Vertical cut:
 - Swing the cutting blade from the bottom upwards in an arc – lower the nose of the blade, move along the hedge and then swing the blade up again in an arc.
- Horizontal cut:
 - Hold the cutting blade at an angle of 0 ° to 10° as you swing the hedge trimmer horizontally. Swing the blade in an arc towards the outside of the hedge so that the cuttings fall to the ground.



REGULATORY & OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- WS&H Act W210, Section 4, 5, 7, 7.1
- Mb. Workplace Safety & Health Regulations 217/2006, Part 16, Sections 16.1 – 16.18
- 2.1 Safe Work Procedures
- 6.1 Personal Protective Equipment
- 8.0 Musculoskeletal Injuries
- 35.0 WHMIS
- 36.0 Chemical Biological Substances
- Safe Work Tip – Out Door Heat Stress