

# Landscaping & Grounds Maintenance Safety Program

Guy's Construction  
123 Main Street, Anytown, CA 90210

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OSHA General Industry / Construction / ANSI Z133

Effective Date: June 08, 2026

**SAMPLE DOCUMENT - NOT FOR COMPLIANCE USE**

## JURISDICTION AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Landscaping work falls under both OSHA General Industry and Construction standards depending on the activity:

- General Industry (29 CFR 1910): grounds maintenance, mowing, trimming, pesticide application
- Construction (29 CFR 1926): grading, excavation, hardscape installation, retaining walls
- ANSI Z133: Safety Requirements for Arboricultural Operations (tree care)
- EPA Worker Protection Standard (40 CFR 170): pesticide/herbicide application

### STATE-SPECIFIC: California has additional requirements:

- requirements of this section
- all provisions of this standard including subsection (e) high-heat procedures
- this section does not apply
- Jack-hammering or chipping when that work is incidental to the scope of work or planned operations of a plumbing or landscaping activity
- T8 CCR 3395: all outdoor work in California including general industry, not just construction. T8 CCR 3395 applies to agriculture, construction, landscap
- all other safety requirements of this Part except Subpart H
- before April 3, 2009
- before July 3, 2015
- before July 3, 2009
- 2 inches for Class 1, 2 inches for Class 2, 1.75 inches for Class 3, 1.5 inches for Class 4, 1 inch for Class 5
- unexpected movement or fall during limbing or bucking
- tree trimming and removal operations
- from coverage
- Tree trimming and tree removal work
- Ionizing radiation
- within 3 months of beginning operation
- any change in the inventory to MSHA within the quarter that the change occurs
- planning to mine coal from coal mines opened after March 30, 1970, or from working sections in mines opened prior to such date, in such mann
- listed as bacterial agent requiring reference documents A, C
- a serious medical condition resulting from the body's inability to cope with a particular heat load, and includes heat cramps, heat exhausti
- T8 CCR 3395(c)-(j): water provision, shade provision, high heat procedures (95F+), emergency response, acclimatization for new workers
- heat illness if no shade or hydration provided
- Heat Illness Prevention Plan to include procedures for provision of water and access to shade
- water provision, shade, rest breaks, and training
- Strength testing particularly of extensor muscle groups of all extremities
- 1 inch for Class 2, 1 inch for Class 4, 1 inch for Class 5
- 1/2H:1V (63 degrees)
- filing requirements of W. Va. Code §22-6-22 and section 12 of this rule

- records pertaining to compliance with this section
- CA DPR, 3 CCR 6700+: CA Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) administers EPA WPS. Stricter training, notification, REI enforcement. Bilingual requirements ma
- pesticide training (WPS)
- pesticide hazards
- application of this section
- T8 CCR 3395, Cal/OSHA agriculture enforcement: Cal/OSHA T8 CCR 3395 heat illness applies to all outdoor agriculture. Cal/OSHA enforces field sanitation with stricter standards than federa
- fees required by W. Va. Code §§22-6-2 and 22-6-29
- all attributes integrated by October 1, 2022
- the necessary light or lights shall be so located at the hoist operator's station that they are readily visible to him at all times
- 150 ?g/dl
- that the underlying soil is adequate support for the crane with its maximum forces recommended by the manufacturer
- respirable crystalline silica dust
- respirable crystalline silica when cutting materials containing crystalline silica without water suppression
- high levels of respirable crystalline silica
- a failure of the rope, tape, or chain
- counterweight or counterweight frame only (not tie rods)
- five class hours of refresher training in a course of instruction similar to that outlined in "First Aid, A Bureau of Mines Instruction Manu
- first-aid training courses for selected supervisory employees at the mine
- at least minimum requirements prescribed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services
- first-aid training courses each calendar year for all selected supervisory employees beginning January 1, 1971
- 10 days after any change of the arrangements required under § 75.1713-1

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1.0 Purpose and Scope
- 2.0 Heat Illness Prevention
- 3.0 Struck-By Hazards
- 4.0 Power Equipment Safety
- 5.0 Chain Saw Safety
- 6.0 Wood Chipper Safety
- 7.0 Tree Care and Climbing (ANSI Z133)
- 8.0 Chemical/Pesticide Safety
- 9.0 Overhead Power Lines
- 10.0 Vehicle and Trailer Safety
- 11.0 Training Requirements
- 12.0 Recordkeeping
- Appendix A: Landscaping Daily Safety Checklist

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## 1.0 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This Landscaping & Grounds Maintenance Safety Program covers hazards associated with landscaping, tree care, grounds maintenance, and hardscape construction on Guy's Construction projects.

## 2.0 HEAT ILLNESS PREVENTION

**Landscaping workers are among the highest-risk occupations for heat illness. Outdoor work, physical exertion, and limited shade create extreme exposure.**

- nationwide emphasis on heat-related injuries - OSHA initiates inspections when heat index exceeds 80F; targets outdoor construction, landscaping, agriculture

*OSHA NEP Heat CPL 03-00-024*

- General Duty Clause applies federally. OSHA proposed heat rule (not yet final): water, rest, shade, acclimatization plan, training, emergency response

*OSH Act Section 5(a)(1), OSHA proposed heat standard*

- first aid

*29 CFR 1904.7(b)(5)(ii)(N)*

- effects in relation to heat stress and task duration
- heat stress
- Water: one quart per worker per hour, available at all times
- Shade: accessible within 2 minutes when temperatures exceed 80F
- Rest breaks: mandatory cool-down rest in shade when showing signs of heat illness
- Acclimatization: new and returning workers on reduced schedule for first 2 weeks
- Buddy system: workers monitor each other for heat illness symptoms

### 3.0 STRUCK-BY HAZARDS

Struck-by injuries are the leading cause of death in landscaping after transportation:

- Falling trees, limbs, and branches: establish drop zone, clear all personnel
- Equipment: mower projectiles (rocks, debris), trim line, edger blades
- Vehicles: work zone struck-by on road shoulders, parking lots
- PPE: hard hat (tree work), safety glasses, hearing protection, steel-toed boots
- Projectile distance: mowers can throw objects 50+ feet. Clear the area.

### 4.0 POWER EQUIPMENT SAFETY

- Mowers: inspect before each use. Guards in place. Shut off before clearing blockages.
- String trimmers/edgers: eye protection mandatory. Keep bystanders outside projectile range.
- Blowers: hearing protection required. Avoid blowing debris toward people, vehicles, or openings.
- Hedge trimmers: two-hand operation. Never reach into hedges while running.
- All equipment: shut off before fueling. No smoking during fueling.

### 5.0 CHAIN SAW SAFETY

- chipper safety, aerial lift operations for tree work, drop zone management, chainsaw safety, storm damage work procedures

*ANSI Z133-2017*

- safety-toed protective footwear when analysis determines necessity
- ANSI Z133 procedures including chipper safety, drop zone management, chainsaw safety, storm damage work procedures
- a constant pressure throttle control that will shut off the power to the saw chain when the pressure is released

*29 CFR 1910.243(a)(2)(i)*

- PPE: hard hat, face screen, hearing protection, chaps (cut-resistant leg protection), steel-toed boots, gloves
- Chain brake: functional and tested before each use
- Kickback zone: never cut with the tip of the bar (kickback zone)
- Two hands on the saw at all times while running
- Carry with the engine off, bar pointing behind you

## 6.0 WOOD CHIPPER SAFETY

**Wood chippers cause severe injuries and fatalities every year. The feed mechanism pulls material in with extreme force - it cannot be stopped once engaged.**

- not in direct line with chipper spout via arranged feed system
- rolling or sliding of chipper
- chipper and barking drum guards, digester safety, chemical splash protection, paper machine guarding, calender nip guards, confined space procedures, LOTO

*29 CFR 1910.261, 1910.212, 1910.146, 1910.147*

- Never reach into the feed chute while the chipper is running
- Feed material butt-end first
- Stand to the side of the feed chute, not directly behind it
- No loose clothing, jewelry, or lanyards that could get caught
- Emergency stop: know the location and test before each use
- Minimum two people for chipper operations

## 7.0 TREE CARE AND CLIMBING (ANSI Z133)

- Tree work performed per ANSI Z133 Safety Requirements for Arboricultural Operations
- Climbing: saddle/harness, climbing line, and friction device. No body belt for fall arrest.
- Drop zone: established and cleared before cutting. Size = 2x the height of the tree/branch.
- Aerial lifts: fall restraint in the bucket. Inspect daily. Avoid contact with power lines.
- Rigging: when limbs cannot be free-dropped, rig and lower using appropriate hardware

## 8.0 CHEMICAL/PESTICIDE SAFETY

- All pesticide/herbicide applicators: licensed per state requirements
- SDS on file for all chemicals. Employees trained in HazCom.
- PPE per product label: typically chemical-resistant gloves, eye protection, long sleeves
- Re-entry intervals (REI): posted and enforced per EPA Worker Protection Standard
- Storage: locked, ventilated area. Away from water sources.
- Spill kit available wherever chemicals are stored or mixed

*40 CFR 170 (EPA Worker Protection Standard)*

## 9.0 OVERHEAD POWER LINES

- Look up before raising any equipment (bucket trucks, cranes, tree limbs)
- Maintain minimum 10-foot clearance from power lines (OSHA default)
- Tree work near power lines: only line-clearance tree trimmers (trained per 1910.269)
- Contact the utility before any tree work within 10 feet of power lines

## 10.0 VEHICLE AND TRAILER SAFETY

- Pre-trip inspection: truck, trailer, hitch, lights, load securement
- Equipment secured on trailer: straps rated for the load, wheel chocks
- Backing: spotter required in work areas. No backing without clear line of sight.
- Work zone: hi-vis vests (Class 2 minimum) when working near traffic

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## 11.0 TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

- This Landscaping Safety Program
- Heat illness prevention (annually, before hot season)
- Chain saw safety and maintenance
- Chipper safety (manufacturer training recommended)
- Tree climbing and rigging (for tree care workers)
- Pesticide applicator certification (state requirement)
- HazCom for all chemicals used
- First aid/CPR

## 12.0 RECORDKEEPING

Record	Retention	Notes
Training records	Duration of employment	All workers
Equipment inspection records	1 year	Daily pre-use
Pesticide application records	3 years	State requirement + EPA
Applicator licenses	Current	State pesticide board
Injury/illness records	5 years	OSHA 300 log

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## APPENDIX A: LANDSCAPING DAILY SAFETY CHECKLIST

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Job Site:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Foreman:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Crew Size:** \_\_\_\_\_

Item	Notes	OK	N/A
Heat illness: water, shade, acclimatization plan	Temp: ___F		
PPE: hard hats, glasses, hearing, gloves, boots			
Chain saw: chain brake, bar, chain tension, fuel			
Chipper: emergency stop, feed chute clear, guards			
Mower: guards, blade condition, projectile zone clear			
Overhead power lines identified and clearance maintained			
Drop zone established (tree work)			
Chemical labels and SDS available			
Vehicle/trailer pre-trip complete			
Hi-vis vests (if near traffic)			
First aid kit on vehicle			
Communication plan (remote sites)			

Foreman: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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