

TREE TRIMMING OPERATIONS, 16VAC25-73

16VAC25-73-90. Work procedures.

F. Brush removal and chipping.

1. Traffic control around the jobsite shall be established prior to the start of chipping operations along roads and highways (see 16VAC25-73-40 B).
2. Brush and logs shall not be allowed to create hazards in the work areas.
3. To prevent an entanglement hazard, loose clothing, climbing equipment, body belts, harnesses, lanyards, or gauntlet-type gloves (for example, long-cuffed lineman's or welder's gloves) shall not be worn while operating chippers.
4. Personal protective equipment shall be worn when in the immediate area of chipping operations in accordance with 16VAC25-73-40 D.
5. Training shall be provided in the proper operation, feeding, starting, and shutdown procedures for the chipper being used.
6. Maintenance shall be performed only by those persons authorized by the employer and trained to perform such operations.
7. Brush and logs shall be fed into chippers, butt or cut end first, from the side of the feed table center line, and the operator shall immediately turn away from the feed table when the brush is taken into the rotor or feed rollers. Chippers shall be fed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
8. The brush chipper discharge chute or cutter housing cover shall not be raised or removed while any part of the chipper is turning or moving. Chippers shall not be used unless a discharge chute of sufficient length or design is provided that prevents personal contact with the blades (see 16VAC25-73-110, Appendix B, General Safety Procedures that Apply to All Tree Work).

TREE TRIMMING OPERATIONS, 16VAC25-73

16VAC25-73-90. Work procedures., CONTINUED.

F. Brush removal and chipping, CONTINUED.

9. Foreign material, such as stones, nails, sweepings, and rakings, shall not be fed into chippers.
10. Small branches shall be fed into chippers with longer branches or by being pushed with a long stick.
11. Hands or other parts of the body shall not be placed into the infeed hopper. Leaning into or pushing material into infeed hoppers with feet is prohibited.
12. While material is being fed into the chipper infeed hopper chute, pinch points continually develop within the material being chipped and between the material and machine. The operator shall be aware of this situation and respond accordingly.
13. When feeding a chipper during roadside operations, the operator shall do so in a manner that prevents him from stepping into traffic or being pushed into traffic by the material that is being fed into the chipper.
14. When using a winch in chipper operations, the operator shall ensure that the winch cable is properly stored before initiating chipper operations.
15. Refer to 16VAC25-73-60 C, for additional information.