



Women's Chainsaw Safety and Cutting Techniques 2-Day Course

Location: Olympia, WA

Date: June 25-26, 2021

Course Times: Course runs Friday, June 25 through Saturday June 26. Sessions from 8:00am – 5:00pm.

Cost: \$499; **course registration closes on 6/18/2021.** Cost includes use of facilities, as well as all course materials, instructor resources and certificate package. Participants are responsible for their own travel, lodging arrangements and PPE gear.

Class Size: This course is limited to 12 participants.

Course Description

Chainsaws are one of the most common hand-held power tools among all industries. This course is designed to educate workers, of all skill levels, who use a chainsaw about proper risk assessment, PPE use and fit, chainsaw safety features, maintenance, use, and handling. Participants will gain an understanding of chainsaw reactive forces and hazards associated with felling trees and cutting wood or brush.

Our all-female team of instructors will use safe, hands-on, and practical work planning strategies during this course to cover topics including saw transport, starting, cross cutting/bucking and limbing, understanding compression and tension, and dealing with spring poles. Felling of small trees (trees of approximately 10 inches in diameter at chest height – 10" dbh) will be demonstrated and practiced on log sections or trees depending on site availability. There is a strong focus on risk assessment, safety and ergonomics.

Risk Assessment, Hierarchy of Controls, Job Briefing/JSA, PPE, and Emergency Preparedness

- Site specific Risk Assessment and Tree Cutting/Felling Risk Assessment
- NIOSH Hierarchy of Controls and hazard mitigation - OSHA and ANSI
- Personal Protective Equipment: When to use, fit/function, limitations, inspection, and retirement
- Fire suppression
- Emergency Action Planning, job site risks, and crew competency/configurations

Chainsaw Safety, Starting, and Operations

- Safety and ergonomic features of the modern chainsaw
- Three-point contact starting, ground start, and leg-lock
- Chainsaw operation including body and hand positioning and chain brake use
- Reactive forces and kick-back
- Ergonomics, Musculoskeletal Disorders (MSD's), and exercises

Technical Cutting and Small Tree Felling

- Systematic work planning
- Height, hazards, and obstacles
- Escape routes and the 5-15-90 rule
- Face notches, back cuts, bore cuts, and hinge wood
- Tree felling equipment
- Felling sights and operator positioning

Limbing and Bucking

- Bucking wedges and cant hooks
- Compression, tension, and avoiding bar pinch
- Limbing and bucking techniques
- Spring poles, shave, tab, and accordion cuts

Chainsaw Maintenance

- Fuels and lubricants
- Daily, weekly, and monthly maintenance practices
- Cutter tooth sharpening, depth gauge filing, files, and guides
- Air cleaner maintenance and chain tensioning
- Guide bar edging, dressing, cleaning, and leveling
- Drive sprocket and needle bearing maintenance

Equipment Requirements

Participants are required to bring personal protective equipment, including:

- Arborist or Forestry Helmet
- Hearing protection (Muffs or Plugs)
- Eye protection (ANSI Z87)
- Face Screen
- Work gloves
- High viz vest/jacket/outerwear (ANSI Class 2 or equivalent)
- ASTM F1897 (2014) UL approved chainsaw protective pants or chaps (NON-UL labeled chaps or pants will not be allowed)
- Approved work boots (ANSI or CE approved)
- Pen and paper
- Clothing appropriate for outdoor weather conditions (our courses run rain or shine; long pants – not shorts)

Deliverables

Attendees who complete this course will receive a NATS-issued Chainsaw Safety and Cutting Techniques Certificate of Completion (valid for 12 months) for this course.

Continuing Educations Units

ISA Certified Arborists and TCIA CTSPs Continuing Education Units (CEUs) have been applied for.

Applicable Standards

This course meets the ANSI/ASSE Z490.1 Criteria for Accepted Practices in Safety, Health, and Environmental Training as well as ANSI Z133 and OSHA 1910.266.

Equivalent Training

This course meets or exceeds training equivalent to US Forest Service Basic Faller, and Game of Logging Levels 1-4.

Age of Majority

Each participant must be over the age of majority in the state in which the course is being held.

Who Should Attend

Women who work in arboriculture, forestry, landscaping, emergency response and other related fields, that are interested in learning and improving their skills related to chainsaws and cutting techniques.