



**UNC**  
ENVIRONMENT,  
HEALTH & SAFETY

# Job Safety Analysis

Safety Information for The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



## GAS POWERED WEED EATER

Title	Work Task	Hazards	Controls
Standard Operating Procedures	1. Initial assessment before each use. (i.e. – Fluids, spool, loose parts, spool line, guard)	None	None
	2. Employee dons the proper Personal Protective Equipment before the job begins.	None	1. The employee must have the following PPE on before operating the edger: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Eye Protection</li> <li>- Ear Protection</li> <li>- Foot Protection (Steel Toed Shoes)</li> <li>- Chaps/Long Pants</li> </ul>
	3. Employee weed eats around landscaping, trees, signs, etc.	1. Flying debris.  2. Pedestrians walking by when working in particular areas.  3. Fatigue.	1. Eye protection should be worn along with long pants or chaps due to flying debris.  2. When using the edger, be aware of your surroundings at all times. When pedestrians are approaching within close proximity of the work area, cut the machine off until they pass by to prevent any debris from flying in their direction.  3. The employee should take breaks as needed to help prevent fatigue. Breaks should also be taken to help the employee be aware of their surroundings.

	<b>Work Task</b>	<b>Hazards</b>	<b>Controls</b>
	4. Working on hills and steep slopes.	1. Slips/Trips/Falls.	1. The employee needs to be aware of whether the surface of the area they are working around is flat, on a gradual slope, or a steep incline. Slip resistant shoes should be worn if the working area is on a slope, and/or if the area is wet.
	5. Performing Maintenance/Cleaning.	3. Poses a hand hazard (cuts) when performing maintenance. (i.e. –the guard area becomes clogged, perform maintenance on loose parts)	3. Hand protection must be worn while performing maintenance on the weed eater.
<b>Training</b>	Employees must have hands on training in the proper use of this piece of equipment.	Supervisor is to fill out the ‘Supervisor Led Training Form’ and turn in the form to UNC-CH Environment, Health and Safety for documentation of proper training.	
<b>Created by</b>	<p style="text-align: center;">Joseph Sutton Workplace Safety Officer UNC-CH Environment, Health &amp; Safety August 28, 2008</p>		
<b>Referenced Material</b>	Refer to Manufactures Owner’s Manual for more information.		
<b>Contact Info</b>	<p>For more information about this JSA and other JSAs, contact: <i>Department of Environment, Health and Safety</i> UNC-CH, 1120 Estes Drive Extension, Chapel Hill NC 27599 CB# 1650 (919) 962-5507 ● <a href="http://ehs.unc.edu">http://ehs.unc.edu</a></p>		