

Chainsaw Safety

Operating a chainsaw can be hazardous. Potential injuries can be minimized by using proper personal protective equipment and safe operating procedures.

Before Starting a Chainsaw

- Check controls, chain tension, and all bolts and handles to ensure that they are functioning properly and that they are adjusted according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Make sure that the chain is always sharp and that the oil tank is full.
- Start the saw on the ground or on another firm support. Drop starting is never allowed.
- Start the saw at least 10 feet from the fueling area, with the chain's brake engaged.

Fueling a Chainsaw

- Use approved containers for transporting fuel to the saw.
- Dispense fuel at least 10 feet away from any sources of ignition when performing construction activities. No smoking during fueling.
- Use a funnel or a flexible hose when pouring fuel into the saw.
- Never attempt to fuel a running or HOT saw.

Chainsaw Safety

- Clear away dirt, debris, small tree limbs and rocks from the saw's chain path. Look for nails, spikes or other metal in the tree before cutting.
- Shut off the saw or engage its chain brake when carrying the saw on rough or uneven terrain.
- Keep your hands on the saw's handles, and maintain balance while operating the saw.
- Proper personal protective equipment must be worn when operating the saw, which includes hand, foot, leg, eye, face, hearing and head protection.
- Do not wear loose-fitting clothing.
- Be careful that the trunk or tree limbs will not bind against the saw.
- Watch for branches under tension; they may spring out when cut.
- Gasoline-powered chainsaws must be equipped with a protective device that minimizes chainsaw kickback.
- Be cautious of saw kickback. To avoid kickback, do not saw with the tip. Keep tip guard in place.



U.S. Department of Labor

For more information:
OSHA[®] Occupational Safety and Health Administration

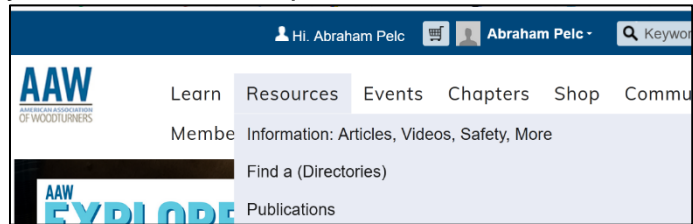
www.osha.gov (800) 321-OSHA (6742)

Accessing AAW's Chainsaw Safety Articles and Videos

If you are a member of AAW, follow the process below to access their information relating to chainsaw safety:

1. Log into www.woodturner.org using your username and password

2. On the top menu bar, glide to Resources and tap on "Information: Articles, Videos, Safety, More"

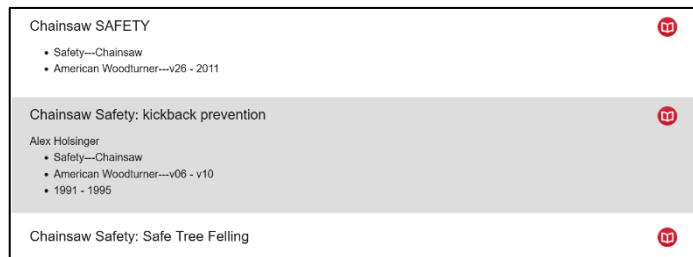


3. On the next screen, select "EXPLORE! Article Search"

4. On the "Search now!" page, select Safety for Category, Chainsaw for Keywords and tap on the Search button.

A screenshot of the 'Search now!' search form. It has fields for 'Author', 'Title', 'Category', and 'Keywords'. The 'Category' dropdown is set to 'Safety' and the 'Keywords' dropdown is set to 'Chainsaw'. There are checkboxes for 'Beginner Content' and 'AAW Videos Only'. A 'Search' button and a 'Reset' button are at the bottom right.

5. You will be presented with a long list of articles relating to chainsaw safety that were published by AAW. Select the ones you want to read by tapping the "book" icon to the right of the listing.



6. Follow the same process to view their videos but select "Video Source: Woodturning Videos" instead of Article Search on step 3 above.

Suggested YouTube videos on chainsaw safety

If you are NOT a member of AAW or want to access videos available to the general public, below are links to YouTube videos on chainsaw safety (keep in mind that anyone can post such videos and that we know nothing about those publishing them so keep that in mind as you view them and keep in mind that they may not follow recommended safety protocols. Our listing these videos here does not constitute approval or endorsement of their presentation. Also keep in mind that many of these videos may require you to view ads):

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H9BegDz1Beo>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t-_CF4AiSK4
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H9BegDz1Beo&t=503s>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7qiA28e9cOk>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KcoN0mNival>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HBEUYs6I6vU>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t-_CF4AiSK4
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kzuijFHquQk>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9NP-1iij8P4>

For more choices, access YouTube's web site and search the topic using the key words "chainsaw safety"