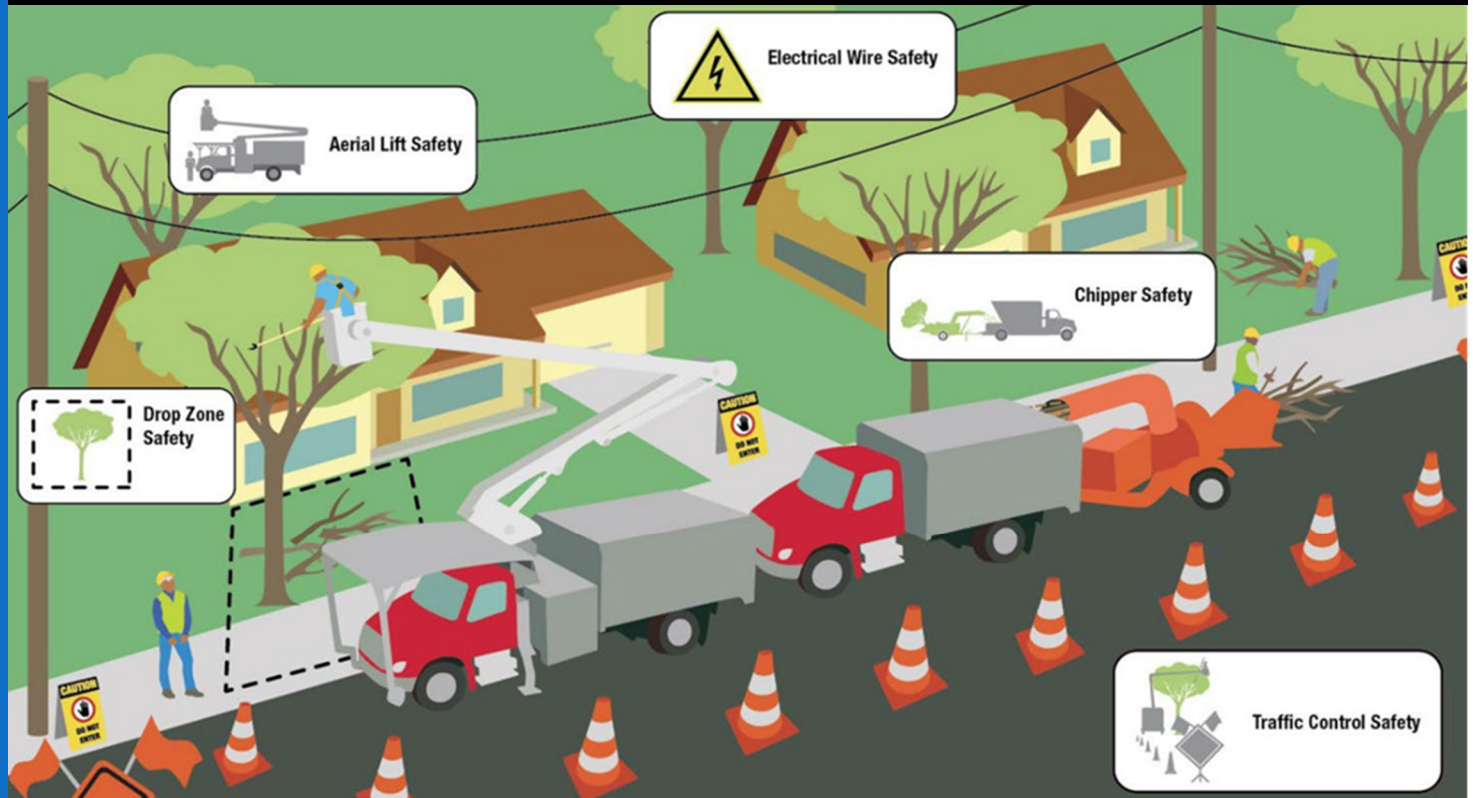


☰ Tool Box Talk | Tree Trimming & Removal Safety



Tree trimming operations require climbing, pruning, and felling trees. Hand and portable power tools such as loppers, trimmers, and chainsaws make the necessary cuts. Aerial lifts and chippers bring workers to the right height and clean up the worksite. The two leading causes of tree trimmer deaths are electrocutions and falls, so extra care and training is needed for work at heights and near power lines.

Avoid Electrical Hazards

- Assume all power lines are energized; contact the utility company to discuss de-energizing and grounding or shielding power lines
- Do NOT perform trimming or removal within 10 feet of a power line if you are not an experienced line-clearance tree trimmer
- Never work without a second trimmer in range of your voice
- Know and maintain the proper minimum approach distances when working around energized power lines
- Use extreme caution when moving ladders and equipment around downed trees and power lines

Stay Alert and Aware

- Watch for and do not work in dangerous weather conditions
- Before working, perform a hazard assessment of the work area
- Eliminate or minimize hazards at the tree and its surroundings
- Never turn your back on a falling tree
- Be alert and avoid objects thrown back by a tree as it falls
- Inspect tree limbs for strength and stability before climbing

Use Proper Technique

- Operate chain saws or other equipment only if you are trained and the equipment is properly maintained
- Use personal protective equipment such as gloves, safety glasses, hard hats, hearing protection, etc., as recommended in the manufacturer's operating manual
- Determine the proper amount of hinge wood needed to safely guide the tree's fall, and plan a retreat path to a safe location
- When working at an elevation, use appropriate fall protection
- Do not climb with tools in your hands
- If a broken tree is under pressure, determine the direction of the pressure and make small cuts to relieve it
- Use extreme care when felling a tree that is lodged against another tree



Tool Box Talk | Tree Trimming & Removal Safety

This form documents that the training specified above was presented to the listed participants. By signing below, each participant acknowledges receiving this training.

Organization: _____

Trainer: _____ **Trainer's Signature:** _____

Participants:

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

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