

PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) JOB HAZARD ASSESSMENT

Department: Facilities	Campus: All
Task: Operate a Leaf Blower (Gasoline-Powered)	
Job Title(s) Performing Task: Groundskeeper	

Reviewed by Sal Vacirca, Campus & Offsite Facilities Manager, July 30, 2015

Task Step/Sub-Tasks	Hazard(s)	Recommended PPE (Bolded)/Controls
1. Check fuel level; refill as necessary.	Burns (from static electricity or open flame that starts a fire)	No metal fuel containers.
		No smoking.
		Start engine at least 10 feet away from fuel source.
2. Check oil level, loose parts, etc.	Ergonomics (back or other strain from holding machine while trying to inspect it)	Do stretching and warm-up exercises before starting work.
		Place blower on a stable surface before inspecting it.
3. Turn ignition switch on.	None foreseen	N/A
4. Pull starter cord to start engine.	Ergonomics (back/other strain from pulling starter cord)	Do stretching and warm-up exercises before starting engine.
		Never "drop start".
		Pull recoil starter handle quickly, but steadily, straight back from blower in one smooth motion and allow the starter cord to rewind slowly.
5. Engage blower, as necessary.	Impact (from objects blown by leaf blower, particles blown into eyes)	Wear safety glasses with side shields .
		Wear long trousers and long sleeve shirt.
	Noise (from leaf blower engine)	When pedestrians are approaching within close proximity of the work area, shut the blower "Off" until they pass by to prevent any debris from flying in their direction.
		Wear ear plugs .

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6. 5 (continued). Engage blower, as necessary.	Ergonomics (back or other strain from reaching too far or awkward positions)	Do stretching and warm-up exercises before starting work. Use easy motions; avoid over-reaching, twisting, bending and awkward positions. Take breaks as needed to help prevent fatigue.
	Ergonomics (possible injury to hands due to vibration from engine operation)	Wear no-slip, heavy duty work gloves .
	Harmful dust	Wear filtering facepiece respirator (particulate mask) .
7. Complete work. Turn ignition switch off.	None foreseen	N/A
8. Check fuel level; refill as necessary.	Burns (from static electricity or open flame that starts a fire)	No metal fuel containers.
		No smoking.
		Allow engine to cool before refueling.

NOTE: Basic hazard categories include – **impact** (falling/flying objects, struck by), **falls from height**, **penetration** (sharp objects piercing foot/hand, other body parts), **compression** (roll-over or pinching), **cuts, burns, chemical exposure** (inhalation, ingestion, skin contact, eye contact or injection), **heat, extreme cold, harmful dust, noise, light (optical) radiation** (welding, brazing, cutting, furnaces, etc.), **ionizing radiation, non-ionizing (RF energy) radiation, electrical shock, ergonomics** (includes back strain or other strain due to lifting/stretching) and **biologic**.

CERTIFICATION: I certify that I have personally performed the above Job Hazard Assessment on the date indicated below. *This document is a Certification of the Hazard Assessment required by 29 CFR 1910.132(d)(2).*

Larry L. Leskovjan	<i>Larry L. Leskovjan</i>	July 30, 2015
Printed Name	Signature	Date