Chainsaw Safety Checklist

Chainsaw safety checklist Y N

1. Training

• Do our company rules clearly state that only trained operators may use chainsaws? .................................................................

• If any young worker between the ages of 16 and 18 is to use a chainsaw, has a specific risk assessment been carried out? ........................................

• If not, are there measures in place to ensure that a risk assessment will be carried out before they’re allowed to use a chainsaw? ........................................

• Do we have a system of training in place? ........................................

• Are copies of any training records kept on file? ........................................

• Do any of our staff working with trees have a nationally recognised certificate of competence, e.g. from the National Proficiency Tests Council? ........

• Do we have a suitable system of refresher training in place? .................

2. Safety precautions

• Do employees need to work with chainsaws either on their own or remotely? .................................................................

• If so, have we provided them with a means of raising the alarm? ...........

• Can we make periodic checks on them? ........................................

• If not, have we arranged for these employees to call in on a regular basis? ....

• Is this frequency sufficient? ...........................................................

• Do we have a means of checking that they have returned after each job? ....

• Have users been instructed to report any defects that they find or suspect? ...

• If so, do they know whom to contact? ...........................................

• Have we provided all employees with a personal first aid kit? ...................

• Do all users know how to deal with major bleeding and crush injuries? ....

• Have we briefed employees on the signs of hypothermia? .....................

• Have we provided a hypothermia blanket to those working remotely? ........

• Has a maintenance programme been set up for our chainsaws? .............
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- If necessary, have anti-vibration mounts been installed? .................................................................
- Do we have records of maintenance and repairs which have been carried out? .................................................................
- Have staff been instructed on the importance of making pre-use safety checks? .................................................................
- Have users been instructed to only use a chainsaw if the saw chain is razor sharp? .................................................................

3. Clothing

- Have we provided our staff with the following personal protective equipment (PPE):
  - eye protection, (e.g. EN 166 compliant for safety glasses)? .................................................................
  - hearing protection (e.g. EN 352-1 compliant for ear muffs)? .................................................................
  - close fitting clothing (e.g. meeting EN 381 for protective clothing)? .................................................................
  - protective gloves? .................................................................
  - leg protection? .................................................................
  - chainsaw boots? .................................................................
  - safety helmet? .................................................................
- Do operators know who to report any defects in PPE to? .................................................................

Comments/further action to be taken:

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This checklist has been completed to the best of my knowledge.

Signed: .................................................................  Date: .................................................................

Note: This checklist is to be retained on file for at least three years.