

STUMP GRINDERS

ALL EMPLOYEES ARE TO BE TRAINED PRIOR TO USING EQUIPMENT



Columbia Gorge Stump Grinder

Purpose

Providing clean, well-maintained facilities is an essential part of OPRD's mission and part of the Centennial Horizon goals of world-class visitor experiences. The use of gas-powered

equipment, such as a stump grinder, helps keep landscapes, trails, and campsites clean, safe, and well maintained. Gas-powered stump grinders require an ability to walk over uneven surfaces, use job hazard analysis to identify worksite dangers, and use equipment and materials safely according to OPRD and manufacturer instructions. The purpose of operating any equipment in Oregon Parks is to accomplish the business of the State while protecting visitors, employees, and volunteers.

Significant Environmental Aspects

OPRD has developed an Environmental Management System (EMS). Information about the EMS and other completed training modules included in the EMS can be located on the "R" Drive at: R:\Environmental Management System. Those activities and operations that may have significant environmental impact have been identified and included in the EMS. Operation of gas-powered equipment, such as a stump grinder, has the potential for significant environmental impact involving: vehicle and engine use, non-hazardous waste, potentially hazardous waste, and air quality. Operators of gas-powered equipment should choose the most efficient equipment to perform assigned tasks.

I. Pre-Operation

A. Read Operator's Manual prior to use.

B. Inspection/Service

- **Check** gas/oil and tires, tighten nuts & bolts. Lubricate fittings.
- **Pre-start** the stump grinder before leaving shop, test safety features.
- **Tool pack** for maintenance.
- **Clogs** Check for clogs and chip build up.
- **Establish** hand signals for when machine is running.
- **Shields** in place at controls, if applicable.
- **Red tag** any tools or non-energized equipment requiring replacement or repair and remove from service.
- **Lockout/Tag-out (LO/TO)** any energized tools or equipment if repairs are needed, in accordance with Procedure Module 09-04, Lockout/Tag-out.

II. Sustainable Operation

A. **Engine Use** – Use job hazard analysis and project planning to minimize engine idle time.

- B. **Maintenance** – Proper maintenance of equipment helps increase fuel efficiency and reduce air pollution.
- C. **Chemical Use** – Where possible use low-smoke oil and bio-based lubricants.
- D. **Waste Disposal** – Properly dispose of all petroleum-based waste according to park procedures or waste management plan. Reuse chips as soil additive or for landscaping.

III. Operation

A. Starting

- **Determine** appropriate chipper for stumps. If too big, contract the job out.
- **Refer** to Operator's Manual for machine specific start up procedures.

B. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- **Head Protection** – Hardhat must be worn.
- **Hand Protection** – Leather gloves must be worn
- **Hearing Protection** – Ear plugs or muffs to be worn
- **Eye Protection** – Safety glasses/goggles or face shield.

C. Site Assessment

- **Utilities** – Check for overhead and underground utility locations. Call the Oregon Utility Notification Center (503)246-6699 (Portland), or 1-800-332-2344 for all other parts of the state. Allow two business days in advance of the digging for locates to be done.
- **Determine** pathway to stump to be chipped.
- **Clear** area around stump.
- **Be aware** of the angle that the chipper can be used on slopes.
- **Adjust** stump height with chain saw. See Chain Saw Operations 06-07.

D. Operation Includes

- **People/Property** - Be aware of people, property and vehicles around work area.
- **Chipping** - Beware that material still may interfere with chipping.
- **Avoid** - Overloading the cutting head (RPM bogging down.)
- **Clothing and Footwear** – Wear clothing and footwear appropriate for the tasks being completed.

IV. Post-Operation

A. Clean Up, Hazard Warnings, Storage

- Clean area where stump grinding was done.
- Place hazard signs/tape to identify any park hazard for the safety of staff and visitors.
- Clean and inspect tools and equipment for damage or needed maintenance.
- Red Tag any non-energized tools or equipment damaged during work project.
- Complete Lockout/Tag-out process for any energized tools or equipment damaged during work.
- Schedule repairs or replacement on damaged tools or equipment.

V. Demonstration of Proficiency

Anyone expected to use a stump chipper must be trained in that process and is required to demonstrate proficiency prior to signing training ledger.

PROFICIENCY TEST STUMP GRINDER

03-14

I. Multiple Choice

1. During pre-operation, you should check what items?
 - a) Gas and oil
 - b) Check for clogs and chip buildup
 - c) Start before leaving the shop
 - d) Tires
 - e) All of the above.

2. What protective equipment should you use?
 - a) Safety glasses.
 - b) Gloves, hardhat.
 - c) Hearing protection.
 - d) Leather pants.
 - e) Coveralls.
 - f) a, b, and c.

3. When operating the stump grinder, you should be aware of what around work area.
 - a) People and vehicles.
 - b) Other property
 - c) Chipped material
 - d) Animals
 - e) How much it has rained
 - f) None of the above
 - g) a, b and c.

4. When assessing the site where you will be grinding, you should:
 - a) Chip your way through any obstacles.
 - b) Check your pathway through the area you will travel to the stump.
 - c) Check to see if there is a slope where you will be grinding.
 - d) Adjust the height of the stump with a chain saw before grinding.
 - e) b, c & d
 - f) All of the above.

II. True/False

5. _____ Before starting you should check oil, gas, tires and tool pack.
6. _____ You should always use PPE.
7. _____ Never clean the area around stumps.
8. _____ Use caution when working on small stumps.
9. _____ Be aware of people, vehicles, and other property in area.
10. _____ After operating stump grinding machine, never clean it before storing.
11. _____ See how far you can throw a rock when grinding.
12. _____ Make sure none of the guards/shields are operable before starting the grinder.

III. Discussion Questions

1. What hazards should you be aware of when operating a stump grinder?
2. What are the limitations of a stump grinder?

Employee Name: _____ Pass _____ No Pass _____ Date: _____

Take this test to your supervisor or trainer for sign off.