

TREE TRIMMING OPERATIONS, 16VAC25-73

16VAC25-73-60. A. Safe use of vehicles and mobile equipment used in arboriculture.

A. General.

1. Prior to daily use of any vehicles and mobile equipment (units), visual walk-around inspections and operational checks shall be made in accordance with manufacturers' and owners' instructions (see 16VAC25-60-120) and applicable federal, state, and local requirements.
2. Units shall be equipped and maintained with manufacturers' safety devices, instructions, warnings, and safeguards. Arborists and other workers shall follow instructions provided by manufacturers.
3. Manufacturers' preventive maintenance inspections and parts replacement procedures shall be followed.
4. Manufacturers' instructions shall be followed in detecting hydraulic leaks. No part of the body shall be used to locate or stop hydraulic leaks.
5. Units shall be operated or maintained only by authorized and qualified personnel in accordance with company policies and federal, state, or local laws.
6. Material and equipment carried on vehicles shall be properly stored and secured in compliance with the design of the unit in order to prevent the movement of material or equipment.
7. If previously installed by the manufacturer, step surfaces and platforms on mobile equipment shall be properly maintained.
8. Safety seat belts, when provided by the manufacturer, shall be worn while a unit is being operated.
9. Riding or working outside or on top of units shall not be permitted unless the units are designed for that purpose or the operator is performing maintenance or inspection. Fall protection shall be provided for employees performing maintenance or inspection on top of units six feet or more above a lower level. Fall protection is not required when performing inspections on top of units six feet or more above a lower level.

TREE TRIMMING OPERATIONS, 16VAC25-73

16VAC25-73-60. A. Safe use of vehicles and mobile equipment used in arboriculture, CONTINUED.

A. General, CONTINUED.

10. Hoisting or lifting equipment on vehicles shall be used within rated capacities as stated by the manufacturers' specifications.
11. Units with obscured rear vision, particularly those with towed equipment, shall be backed up in accordance with 16VAC25-97.
12. When units are left unattended, keys shall be removed from ignition, the wheels chocked, and, if applicable, the parking brake applied.
13. Units shall be turned off, keys removed from the ignition, and rotating parts at rest prior to making repairs or adjustments, except where manufacturers' procedures require otherwise. Defects or malfunctions affecting the safe operation of equipment shall be corrected before such units are placed into use.
14. Personal protective equipment (for example, eye, head, hand, and ear protection) shall be worn in accordance with 16VAC25-73-40 D.
15. When towing, safety chains shall be crossed under the tongue of the unit being towed and connected to the towing vehicle.
16. The unit's exhaust system shall not present a fire hazard.
17. Towed units that detach from another unit (for example, a motorized vehicle) shall be chocked or otherwise secured in place.
18. Units operated off-road shall be operated in the proper gear and at the proper speed relative to the operating environment and the manufacturers' instructions and guidelines.