

# RMWT Wood Bank Guidelines

The Wood Bank is a function of the Rocky Mountain Woodturners for the benefit of the membership and is supported by volunteers. Working around heavy logs and using chainsaws is a potentially hazardous activity. These guidelines are to provide information on safe usage of the Wood Bank for our members and others that may be present.

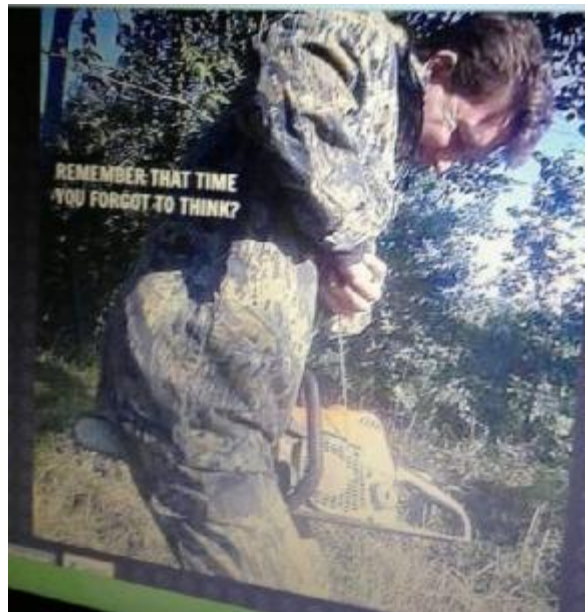
When in the Wood Bank area, or other RMWT activities, **Safety Equipment** must be utilized when using a chainsaw. This includes wood retrieval activities. Members may utilize their own gear or that supplied by the RMWT. The safety equipment located at the Wood Bank includes helmets with face screens and chainsaw chaps. Provide your own hearing protection.

## **Guidelines to be utilized at the RMWT Wood Bank and related activities.**

- If the Wood Bank operator (John Giem) is not present, then the Wood Lot is not open for usage.
- If you are not adept or not comfortable using a chainsaw, ask for some coaching.
- Chain saw users must wear protective equipment including ear protection.
- Protect your feet, no tennis shoes, heavy leather or steel toe boots preferred.
- Blocks are available to support

wood off of the ground to prevent chain contact with dirt or rocks.

- Clear away debris so that you have clear footing and no tripping hazards.
- Bystanders should maintain a wide margin around running chainsaws to minimize risk of injury.
- At all times, be aware of those around you.
- Before starting a cut, block the wood to prevent its unintentional movement or binding of the chainsaw.
- DO NOT operate any chainsaw within 10 feet of another chainsaw.
- Keep the area clean and neat, unnecessary clutter increases the risk of injury.
- When finished, clean up after yourself. Rakes, shovels, etc. are available.



**1, Notice the improper holding of saw while starting!**

The information below was obtained from **OSHA**, additional information can be found by searching the internet.

## Chain Saw Safety

Operating a chain saw is inherently hazardous. Potential injuries can be minimized by using proper personal protective equipment and safe operating procedures.

### Before Starting a Chain Saw

- Check controls, chain tension, and all bolts and handles to ensure that they are functioning properly and that they are adjusted according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Make sure that the chain is always sharp and the lubrication reservoir is full.
- Start the saw on the ground or on another firm support. Drop starting is never allowed.
- Start the saw at least 10 feet from the fueling area, with the chain's brake engaged.

### Fueling a Chain Saw

- Use approved containers for transporting fuel to the saw.
- Dispense fuel at least 10 feet away from any sources of ignition when performing construction activities. **No smoking during fueling.**
- Use a funnel or a flexible hose when pouring fuel into the saw.
- Never attempt to fuel a running or HOT saw.

### Chain Saw Safety

- Clear away dirt, debris, small tree limbs and rocks from the saw's chain path. Look for nails, spikes or other metal in the tree before cutting.
- Shut off the saw or engage its chain brake when carrying the saw on rough or uneven terrain.
- Keep your hands on the saw's handles, and maintain secure footing while operating the saw.
- Proper personal protective equipment must be worn when operating the saw, which includes hand, foot, leg, eye, face, hearing and head protection.
- Do not wear loose-fitting clothing.
- Be careful that the trunk or tree limbs will not bind against the saw.
- Watch for branches under tension, they may spring out when cut.
- Gasoline-powered chain saws must be equipped with a protective device that minimizes chain saw kickback.
- Be cautious of saw kick-back. To avoid kick-back, do not saw with the tip. If equipped, keep tip guard in place.

For more complete information:



Occupational  
Safety and Health  
Administration

U.S. Department of Labor

[www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov) (800) 321-OSHA

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