

10 Safety Audits to Reduce Risks & Improve Crew Safety



Too often, taking a closer look at how a crew works and operates is prompted by an accidental injury or death. A comprehensive series of third-party safety audits and feedback reporting or a series of on-site, real-time training can ensure best safety practices are always being followed. Safety audits of crews should be performed at random and should be unanticipated to get a real sense of how a crew is performing. Overtime, the daily and long-term benefits of using a safety monitoring program can improve the lives of the workers and improve the stress and cost on management.

1 Pre-job Briefing

Ensure the entire crew has information about job hazards, work procedures, special precautions and appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

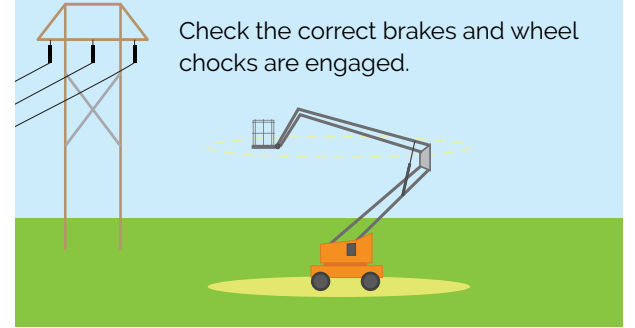


2 Aerial Lift Operation

Fly the boom as a pre-job inspection.

Ensure tree crews are utilizing the right body harnesses.

Check the correct brakes and wheel chocks are engaged.



3 Traffic Control

See that crews are using traffic cones as necessary, following local Department of Transportation specifications, and ensuring traffic is not unsafely obstructed.



4 Tree Felling

Look for proper notching and rigging techniques.

Ensure proper communication skills across the entire crew.

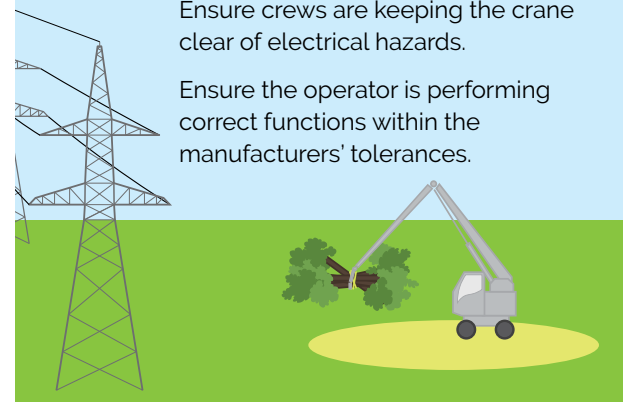


5 Crane Operation

Check cranes are not overloaded and materials are properly secured.

Ensure crews are keeping the crane clear of electrical hazards.

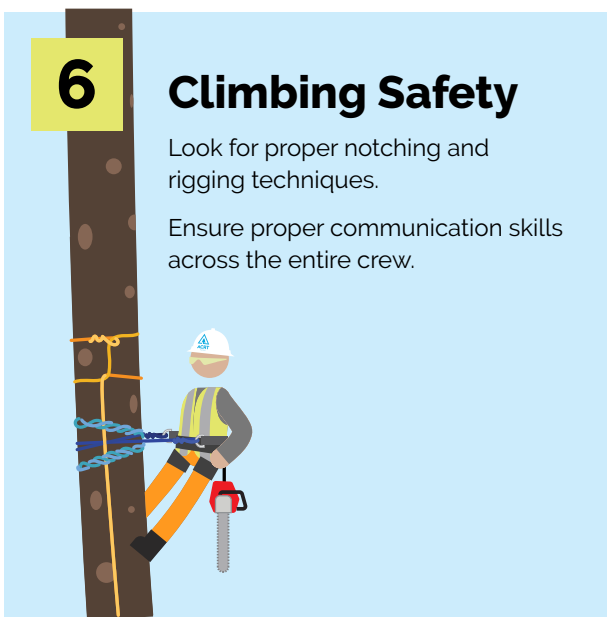
Ensure the operator is performing correct functions within the manufacturers' tolerances.



6 Climbing Safety

Look for proper notching and rigging techniques.

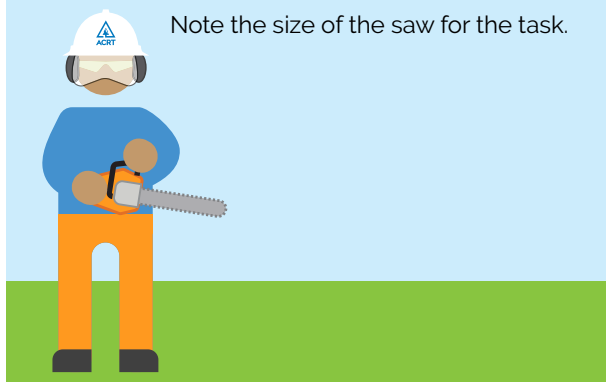
Ensure proper communication skills across the entire crew.



7 Chain Saw Safety

Check for proper handling and cutting techniques following ANSI Z133 requirements.

Note the size of the saw for the task.

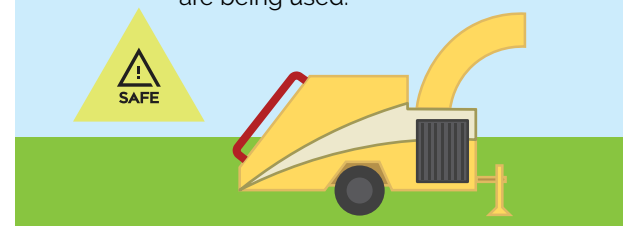


8 Wood Chipper Operation

Evaluate how crews handle and work around the equipment.

Ensure crews are properly maintaining and using the equipment.

Check the proper towing connections are being used.



9 Equipment Use and Technology Solutions

Check the right gear is being used for the job.

Provide feedback and training to workers in real-time.

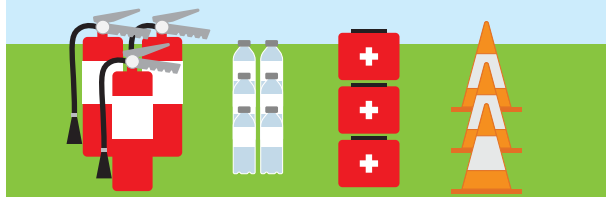


10 General Housekeeping

Keep equipment neat, organized, labeled and stored properly.

Account for all essential items such as traffic cones, drinking water, first aid kits, and fire extinguishers.

Ensure cabs are clean and organized.



A comprehensive safety audit program can be invaluable for any tree care organization, even when it might appear that your crew is adhering to safety practices.

Every organization should consider implementing these ten audit areas for overall crew safety and business success.

Learn more about how we can elevate your safety program at acrt.com.



Independent Promise

100% employee-owned.
Independence guaranteed.

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS PUBLICATION IS PROVIDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY, AND SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS LEGAL ADVICE ON ANY SUBJECT MATTER. YOU SHOULD NOT ACT OR REFRAIN FROM ACTING ON THE BASIS OF ANY CONTENT INCLUDED IN THIS PUBLICATION WITHOUT SEEKING LEGAL OR OTHER PROFESSIONAL ADVICE. WE DO NOT GUARANTEE THE ACCURACY OF THIS INFORMATION OR ANY RESULTS AND FURTHER ASSUME NO LIABILITY IN CONNECTION WITH THIS PUBLICATION AND SAMPLE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, INCLUDING ANY INFORMATION, METHODS OR SAFETY SUGGESTIONS CONTAINED HEREIN. MOREOVER, THIS PUBLICATION CANNOT BE ASSUMED TO CONTAIN EVERY ACCEPTABLE SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE PROCEDURE OR THAT ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES MIGHT NOT BE APPROPRIATE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES.