



# West Bay Sanitary District Code of Safe Practice

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Initial: June 01, 2012

Questions or comments regarding this  
Code of Safe Practice should be directed  
to the Regulatory Compliance Coordinator.

---

## Wood Chipper, Gasoline

---

- Pre-inspect equipment including rental equipment.
- Review and understand the manufacturer's operator's manual for this equipment.
- Eye and hearing protection shall be worn by the operator and workers in the immediate area. Workers not involved in the chipping operation shall not approach the chipper without personal protective equipment.
- Gauntlet-type gloves shall not be worn by a chipper operator.
- The wearing of jewelry is prohibited. Jewelry includes, but is not limited to, rings, watches, neck chains, and key chains on belts.
- The chipper manufacturer's operator's manual shall be available to workers operating or servicing the chipper.
- Before any trailer chipper is towed, the hitch, safety chain and electrical connection shall be properly attached. No one shall ride on any part of the chipper.
- The brush chipper emergency safety shutdown mechanism shall be tested periodically.
  - If the chipper was not used by the same crew on the previous day (chipper was idle or used by others), an actual shutdown test shall be made by the operator with engine running at idle or just above as part of daily pre-operation check.
  - If the same crew operated the chipper on the previous day, and an actual shutdown test was made, then a static shutdown test with engine off is required.
  - Chippers with a "drop plate" mechanism shall be checked daily.
- A chipper shall never be operated without proper guards in place.
- The chipper ignition shall be locked and the key removed whenever the unit is left unattended.

- Cutting bar and blades shall be kept sharp, properly adjusted and otherwise maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Safety cover or guard shall be placed on rotor knives before adjustment or blade change.
- Disengage the spring-loaded over-center cocking mechanism on brake master cylinder when servicing chipper emergency shutdown brake service.
- All working? shall be kept clear of the exhaust chute when the chipper is running.
- Rotary drum or disk-type brush chippers shall be fed from the side of the feed table and the operator shall immediately turn away from the feed table when the brush is taken into the rotor.
- Workers shall never place hands, arms, feet, legs, and any other part of the body on the feed table when the brush chipper is in operation or the rotor is turning.
- Small pieces of brush or wood shall be pushed through the chipper with a stick or branch – never with the hands, feet or work tools.
- Materials such as stones, nails, sweepings, etc., shall not be fed into the brush chipper.
- Trailer chippers detached from trucks shall be chocked or otherwise secured.
- Never attempt to turn rotor drum with hands; use a push-stick.
- Brush chipper operator must be trained and qualified.
- The engine, particularly the manifold and exhaust area, shall be kept free of chips and sawdust to prevent fire.

## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Protection Area	PPE Required
Eye	Safety glasses or goggles meeting the ANSI Z87.1 Standard.
Face	Face shield screen type to protect the face from flying debris.
Hand	Work gloves.
Head	Hardhat.
Foot	Leather steel toe safety shoes or boots.
Body	Protective clothing with long sleeve shirts and long leg pants.
Respiratory	N95 dust mask when appropriate.
Hearing	Wear earplugs or earmuffs as necessary.