Spring into Safety

- On average about 220,000 people make emergency room visits due to ladder mishaps each year.
- More than 87,000 people are treated annually in hospital emergency rooms for lawn mower injuries - casualties of burns, dismemberment, electric shock, falls and thrown objects.
- Another 76,000 people sustain injuries from power garden tools such as trimmers, lawn edgers and pruners.

To avoid paying a visit to the emergency room this spring, be aware of these basic safety guidelines for proper use of your lawn and garden equipment, tools and ladders.

Lawn mowers

- Read your lawn mower's owner's manual and know how to stop the machine instantly in an emergency.
- Always start the mower outdoors. Never operate the mower where carbon monoxide can collect, such as in a closed garage, storage shed or basement.
- Do not operate an electrically powered lawn mower on wet grass.
- Use an extension cord designed for outdoor use and rated for the power needs of your mower.
- Keep your hands and feet away from the mower's blades. Never reach under the mower while the mower is running. Make all adjustments with the motor off.
- Ensure all safety guards are in place. If you hit a foreign object or have a mower malfunction, turn off the mower (and disconnect the power cord from electric models) before inspecting for damage.
- Never leave a lawn mower 'ON' while unattended.
- Keep other adults, children and pets clear. Mowers can fling rocks at up to 200 miles per hour.
- Make sure your shoes provide good traction and have sturdy soles to resist punctures and protect toes. Never work barefoot or in sandals, canvas shoes, etc.

Lawn and garden tools

- Read and follow the manufacturer's use and care instructions.
- Before use, inspect tools for frayed power cords and cracked or broken casings. If the product is damaged, have it repaired by a qualified technician, or replace it.
- Always wear safety glasses.
- Always wear proper attire. Keep your clothing, hands and feet away from cutting blades at all times. Never wear loose jewelry when you are working with tools.
- Never alter a product or remove safety features such as blade guards or electric plug grounding pins.
- Use only properly rated outdoor extension cords with outdoor electrical tools.
- Check the switch on a power tool or garden appliance to make sure it's 'OFF' before you plug it in.
- Unplug all portable electrically operated power tools when not in use. These tools contain electricity even when turned 'OFF' but still plugged in.
- Pay attention to warning markings. Don't allow tools to get wet unless they are labeled "Immersible." When using tools outside, make sure they are appropriate for outdoor use.
- Use and store power tools and garden appliances away from water sources to avoid electric shock. Never use power tools and appliances in the rain.
- Never carry an appliance by the cord, and never yank the cord when removing it from a receptacle. When disconnecting the cord, always grasp the plug - not the wire. Keep the cord away from heat, oil and sharp edges.

Lawn and gardening work

- Always wear protective clothing when you handle pesticides and fertilizers.
- Limber up and remember to stretch before heading out.
- Heat stress can be a risk. Remember to drink plenty of water and take frequent breaks out of the sun.
- Where your skin is exposed, apply sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15.
- Wear an approved hard hat when using power tools.
- Wear proper shoes - cleats with good traction are recommended when working near water.
- Keep your hands and feet away from the mower's blades.
- Always wear protective clothing when you handle pesticides and fertilizers.
- Keep other adults, children and pets clear. Mowers can fling rocks at up to 200 miles per hour.
- Make sure your shoes provide good traction and have sturdy soles to resist punctures and protect toes. Never work barefoot or in sandals, canvas shoes, etc.

Safety Committee:

- ACD/ESSL Andrew Turnipseed x1448
- CISL/IM4Ge Joan Fisher x1207
- F&A Matt Pinter x2522
- MM/E/ESSL Charlie Knight x8940
- SuSS Milenda Powers x8625
- Security Susan Cobb x1139
- ASP/ISSE/CCR/SERE Susanne Demaree x8117
- DIR/Library Jenny Wilson x1119
- HAO/ESSL Don Kolinski x1548
- PPS Dave Maddy x1134
- SaSS Elizabeth Kriete x8556
- UOP Ellen Martinez x8686
- EOL/TIMES Bruce Morley x2035
- E&O Karen Smith-Herman x2590
- HR Cyd Perrone x8710
- RAL Inger Gallo x8403
- SaSS Bob Wiley x8554
- CGD/ESSL Adam Phillips x1726
- F&A Bill Hammel x8869
- Jeffco/EOL Shannon Aguilar x1030
- SuSS Steve Sadler x8550
- SaSS Anna Vasilyeva x2409

Comments, questions, suggestions may be directed to Bob Wiley @ x8554 or rwiley@ucar.edu

Upcoming Safety Classes:

- 5-16-2008  
  CPR Certification 10:00am - 5:00pm ML-Chapman Room
- 06-04-2008  
  Workplace Harassment Awareness 10:00am - 12:00pm CG1-2126

- 06-05-2008  
  Hazard Communication Safety class 9:00am - 10:30am Jeffco
  Confined Space Safety Workshop 10:30am -11:30am Jeffco
  Hot Operations Safety class 11:30am - 12:30pm Jeffco
  Lock-Out-Tag-Out safety class 1:30pm - 2:30pm Jeffco

- 08-27-2008  
  CPR Recertification 1:00pm - 5:00pm FL2 1002
  Fire Extinguisher 10:00am - 12:00pm FL2 1002

Register @:

HR website:  www.fin.ucar.edu/hr/staff_dev/index.html
or by calling Jan Wilmesmeier x8713.

Personal Safety Tips

Each UCAR facility is equipped with alarms that sound when smoke or heat are detected or when sprinkler water flows. All employees and visitors must leave the building when evacuation alarms sound. Below is the website address to access your Building Evacuation Instructions & Maps

http://www.fin.ucar.edu/sass/hess/committee/bldgevacinstruc.html

Did You Know?

- CG1, CG4, FL2 & Mesa Lab front desks are now equipped with vehicle jump boxes. Should you need assistance with a "dead battery," contact front desk personnel or Security x1139.

Loveland Safety Notes

- Radio Frequency (RF) Safety Training 6:00 - 8:00 PM FL2 1002
- Lock-Out-Tag-Out safety class 9:00am - 12:00pm Jeffco
  Lunch
  CPR Recertification 1:00pm - 5:00pm FL2 1002

- Fire Extinguisher Training 10:00am - 12:00pm FL2 1002
- CPR Recertification 1:00pm - 5:00pm FL2 1002

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