

7.0 Safety Standards

Introduction

Safe tree maintenance is the most important objective for the supervisory staff of the DRP Forestry Division. Employees are trained on a continuous basis regarding all tasks of tree operations. DRP recognizes safety standards, which are represented in the following two documents:

7.10 ANSI Z133.1 Safety Standards for the Tree Care Industry

The publication (Appendix E) establishes safety standards for tree care operations in the United States and provides safety criteria for workers and the public. The following are topics covered in the publication:

- General safety requirements
- Electrical hazards
- Vehicles and mobile equipment
- Portable power hand tools
- Hand tools and equipment
- Work procedures

The booklet also provides:

- Glossary of terms used in the tree industry
- Recommended guidelines for standard performance and safety training
- General safety procedures that apply to all tree work
- Available resources
- Weight of green logs
- Impact of OSHA & ANSI Standards upon municipal forestry Departments.

7.20 DRP Code of Safe Practices for Forestry Operations

The Recreation and Parks Department Safety Officer established this code to be recognized by all employees working in tree operations within our Department (Appendix F).

7.30 Safety Practices to Secure Work Areas, including Flagging

Proper traffic control techniques are developed for a purpose. They: reduce accidents, minimize injury to workers and the public, reduce damage to private and public property (including damage to the project and equipment), minimize the possibility of claims and litigation arising from work zone accidents, reduce confusion to motorists, expedite traffic flow, and improve public relations. More information is provided in a document used by the DRP Forestry Division *Tree Operations Manual*.

7.40 Rigging

Rigging, as it relates to tree work, is an assemblage of tackle (lines, pulleys, gear and equipment) arranged to gain mechanical advantage when hoisting, lowering, hinging (pivoting), and pulling. It is, in essence, the how, where and why the trimmer places his lines, whether they are butt-lines, guide-lines, or fall-lines, in order to enhance his

control over his ever-changing environment, the tree. The trimmer must assess and adjust his rigging procedure with each job because each tree is unique. Details are discussed in the Forestry Division *Tree Operations Manual*.

7.50 Knotting

Knotting in the tree industry is necessary to perform safe tree operations. Before each use, the Tree Surgeons shall inspect climbing lines, work lines, and other climbing equipment for damage, cuts, abrasions, and/or deterioration, and shall remove it from service if signs of excessive wear or damage are found. The DRP's *Tree Operations Manual* contains terms used in tree industry and descriptions of how knots are to be tied.