Chainsaw Safety Best Management Practices

Peter J. Smallidge
NYS Extension Forester, and
Director Arnot Teaching and Research Forest

Chainsaw Opportunities

• Storm damage
• Downed or hazard trees
• Road, shoulder, or ditch management
• ROW clearing
• Preventive maintenance of trees

Nature and Frequency of Chainsaw Use?

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

Cut Resistant Chaps or Pants

Head / Eye / Ear Protection
Foot Protection

Keep PPE Accessible / Ensure Use

Training to Understand the Tree

Training to Understand the Function and Safety Features of the Saw

Anticipate Problems
BEST PRACTICES FOR CHAINSAW SAFETY

1. Be Where You Are

2. Beginner and Continuing Training

3. Wear the PPE

4. Identify Hazards
5. Fully Assess the Tree’s Lean

6. Identify and Clear Escape Path

7. Anticipate and Use Correct Hinge Size

8. Determine Final Cut

9. Maintain Equipment

10. Stop Before You Get Tired
Bill Lindloff, Pro-Cuts, 607-786-5462