SNOW BLOWER SAFETY TIPS

Be Prepared
- Do not wear loose clothing, scarves, jewellery
- Inspect snow blower:
  - Guards are secure
  - Auger housing and discharge chute are clear
  - See company checklist
- Select and inspect appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE):
  - Hearing protection
  - Safety glasses
  - Slip-resistant footwear
  - High visibility garment
  - Cold weather gear
- Plan your route, check for holes, stones, doormats, newspapers, debris, excessive slope
- Use only approved GFCI receptacles and extension cords properly rated for your machine

Work Safe
- Review the safety labels
- Ensure people and pets remain at a safe distance
- Start a gas / diesel engine model outside
- Pace yourself. Exertion in the cold increases risk of heart attack
- Do not operate on steep slopes
- Do not clear snow across the face of slopes to avoid tipping
- Do not direct discharge toward people, vehicles or windows
- Before unclogging the discharge chute: Turn engine off; wait for blades to STOP; remove key; remove spark plug cap
- Use a stick or tool to clear any blockages. NEVER use your hand! Stored energy may cause blades to rotate

Finish Right
- Make sure the fuel valve lever is turned to the OFF position
- Maintain snow blower and clean as directed
- Fuel only when snow blower is:
  - Cool
  - Away from other sources of ignition
  - Outdoors
- Report any problems with equipment or PPE to your supervisor

Speak up!
If you see a hazard, let a supervisor know. Everyone plays a role in your safety and health.

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HOW TO USE SAFETY CHECKS FOR WORKERS

Safety checks provide information for workers on how to work safely with specific hazards. Safety Check information can be used in orientation training, tailgate talks or even in one-one coaching. Use the following tips to help you communicate this information in your workplace:

- Use language that is consistent with the workplace
- Consider the work you do and specific examples of how these hazards can result in injury or illness
- Explain how the safe work practices will help prevent injury and illness
- Wherever possible, use the actual tools, equipment, materials and PPE to demonstrate proper use
- Ask specific questions during your talk to check understanding
- Keep a record of each talk that you deliver (see the form below)
- Post a copy of the Safety Check for workers to reference

OWNERS AND SUPERVISORS

Have you taken reasonable measures to control this hazard using the hierarchy of controls?

- Purchasing equipment suitable for the work to be done
- Ensuring safeguards are working
- Following manufacturer’s instructions for operation
- Inspecting and maintaining equipment
- Training on safe operation and working on slopes
- Implementing and enforcing PPE program

Date: ____________________________ Topic: __________________________________________________

Safety Check Session Leader: _________________________________________________________________

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