

City of Belleville Fire Department

Number: 1030

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Belleville Fire Department that prudent practice be exercised to reduce the risk of injury to personnel while operating ventilation saws.

Date S.O.G. Comes Into Effect: July 3, 2006

Date S.O.G. Revised: March 23, 2017

Date Committee Approved S.O.G. : May 3, 2006

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GUIDELINE

1:00 **Purpose:**

1:01 To ensure that all personnel are familiar with the safe operation of ventilation saws.

2:00 **Procedures:**

2:01 **Training:** All personnel shall train on the proper operation and safety of ventilation saws.

2:02 **Protective Equipment:**

- Bunker Coat and Pants
- Fire Boots or CSA approved footwear
- Helmet with face shield
- Leather Gloves
- Safety glasses
- Hearing protection
- Chainsaw leg chaps

THIS GUIDELINE IS NOT EXPECTED TO SUBSTITUTE FOR GOOD JUDGEMENT AND EXPERIENCE UNDER UNUSUAL CONDITIONS.

2:03 **Daily Operation Checks:**

Chainsaw/Rescue Saw:

- Eye and hearing protection required
- Check oil and fuel levels
- Check chain adjustment
- Check chain brake, guards, etc to make sure they are in place and functioning
- Start saw and run until warm
- Ensure chain lubrication system is functioning

Rotary Saw:

- Eye and hearing protection required
- Check fuel level
- Check blade for condition and adjustment
- Check guard to make sure it is in place and functioning
- Start saw and run until warm

2:04 **Safe Use of Saws:**

Chainsaw/Rescue Saw:

- Full personal protection equipment shall be worn including Bunker coat and pants, boots, helmet, leather gloves, safety glasses, hearing protection and chainsaw leg chaps.
- Start the saw to ensure proper operation
- Operate the chainsaw/Rescue Saw in well ventilated areas only
- Keep all other personnel clear of the cutting operation
- Do not use the chainsaw/rescue saw for cutting above shoulder height
- Only use the Rescue Saw for creating roof ventilation holes

Rotary Saw:

- Full personal protection equipment shall be worn including Bunker coat and pants, boots, helmet, leather gloves, safety glasses and hearing protection.
- Start the saw to ensure proper operation
- Operate the rotary saw in well ventilated areas only

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- Keep all other personnel clear of the cutting operation

2:05 **Maintenance:**

- Follow proper maintenance and servicing of saws as per the manufacturers specifications.
- Keep saws and equipment clean.
- Check blades and chains for sharpness and defects.
- Never refuel a saw that is running or hot.
- Inspect the chainsaw chaps for damage and cleanliness

3:00 **Scope:**

3:01 It shall be the responsibility of the Captain/ Officer in charge of each shift to ensure that this guideline is explained and followed.

3:02 It shall be the responsibility of **all employees** to understand and adhere to this guideline.

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