



## Safe Operating Procedures

SOPs are designed to help employees identify hazards, limitations, PPE, & safety training for specific equipment/tasks. Environmental Health and Safety, 414 J.M. Smith Hall

	<b>Equipment/ Task Name</b>	Power Washer Equipment	
	<b>Departments Impacted</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical Plant (Landscape)</li> <li>Biology (Meeman Field Station Caretaker)</li> </ul>	
	<b>Purpose</b>	A pressure washer is a tool which uses increased water pressure to remove pollen, mildew, dried grass clippings, flaking paint, and the greasy film from air pollution from surfaces and objects such as buildings and concrete surfaces.	
TASK		HAZARDS	CONTROLS
1. Preparing for Use	Trips and falls	Clear work area of debris and trip hazards.	
	Bodily injury to self or others	Use cones, signs and barricades to warn and prevent unauthorized personnel and pedestrian traffic from entering the work area.	
2. Fueling/Oiling Pressure Washer	Skin or eye contact with fuel	<b>PER Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for fuel / oil</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wear appropriate gloves.</li> <li>Wear safety goggles or face shield.</li> </ul>	
3. Fueling (continued)	Fire/Burns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add fuel outside or in approved well-ventilated area using approved fuel containers.</li> <li>Clean-up spills immediately with absorbent; do not start engine until fumes have dispersed.</li> <li>Do not add fuel to hot engine.</li> <li>Keep fuel away from heat sources, sparks, and open flames.</li> </ul>	
4. Using Pressure Washer	Bodily injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoid contact with high pressure steam tips and nozzles: Use extreme caution.</li> <li>Keep hands, hair, and loose clothing away from moving parts.</li> <li>Secure long hair.</li> <li>Wear safety shoes.</li> <li>Wear protective apron (if needed).</li> </ul>	
	Head or eye injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wear hard hat if working where anything can fall on worker.</li> <li>Wear safety goggles/safety glasses with side shields or wear face shield.</li> </ul>	
	Hand injury	Wear appropriate gloves.	
	Hearing damage	Wear ear plugs or ear muffs.	
	Burns	Avoid contact with hot parts of engine such as muffler, etc.	
	Electric shock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow manufacturer's instructions, do not spray electrical equipment, energized electrical components, and stay an approved distance from all power lines.</li> </ul>	



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure power is locked out by campus electricians if potential to contact energized electrical equipment.</li> <li>• Secure area if electrical hazards are present.</li> </ul>		
5. Procedure for malfunctioning or broken equipment	Bodily injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtain Accident Prevention Tag- mark equipment "Do Not Use" – specify problem or hazard.</li> <li>• Whenever possible isolate power source so equipment cannot be used. (Lock Out- Tag Out).</li> <li>• Notify shop and/or take equipment to shop.</li> </ul>		
Required Personal Protective Equipment		Required Training		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hearing protection</li> <li>• Safety glasses or face shield</li> <li>• Appropriate gloves (for dispensing fuel – optional for use of power washer)</li> <li>• Long pants or equivalent protection such as coveralls or Tyvek rated for chemical exposure</li> <li>• Protective apron (optional)</li> <li>• Hard hat (as necessary)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training with a competent person</li> <li>• Lockout/Tagout Training (LOTO)</li> <li>• Personal Protective Equipment</li> <li>• Read, understand, and follow manufacturer's safety instructions</li> </ul>		
Equipment Procedures/Requirements				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Operate equipment in strict accordance with Manufacturer's instructions.</li> <li>2. Only authorized users can operate equipment.</li> <li>3. Contact with high pressure stream may cause severe injury. Use extreme caution to prevent body contact with pressure stream. Maximum pressure at nozzle is 3400 psi.</li> <li>4. Report any observed defect or safety hazard to your supervisor immediately.</li> <li>5. Where any object handled would possibly cause injury to feet if dropped, safety shoes will be worn.</li> <li>6. Where any object handled could possibly cause cuts, punctures or abrasions to hands, appropriate gloves will be worn. (Exception: where rotating machinery presents a greater hazard of entangling gloves, they are optional at the supervisor's discretion).</li> <li>7. Keep hands, hair and loose clothing clear of all moving parts.</li> </ol>				
Additional Precautions for fuel powered engines				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Always operate in an open well-ventilated area or vent the engine exhaust directly outdoors.</li> <li>2. Never fuel the engine while running or in the presence of an open flame.</li> <li>3. Wipe up spilled fuel immediately and wait for fumes to disperse before starting the engine.</li> <li>4. Never remove the radiator pressure cap from liquid cooled engines while they are hot to prevent scalding.</li> <li>5. Stop the engine before performing any maintenance or troubleshooting. The ignition system should be disabled to prevent accidental start of the engine.</li> <li>6. Keep all guards and shields in place.</li> <li>7. Keep hands, hair and clothing away from moving parts.</li> </ol>				
<b>SOP ID</b>	<b>G005</b>	<b>Related Documents</b>	<b>Creation/Revision Date</b>	<b>07/23/2018</b>

Suggestions, questions, or comments? Please contact EH&S