



Landscape Services

Safety Standard Operating Procedure

(Revised 3/2023)

Edger Operation

This SSOP provides guidance on the practices established for **Edger Operation**. As with any equipment or tools, the most basic premise for safe operation is reading and adhering to the manufacturer's instructions and warnings. This SSOP is not a substitute for the owner's manual produced by the manufacturer.

Safety Requirements: Be aware of your surroundings, check for debris, branches, rocks, and pedestrians. Cease operation when pedestrians are present.

Safety Hazards: Vehicle and pedestrian traffic, Underground and overhead Utilities, lifting, bending, overhead objects, dust, noise, sharp objects, blind spots, equipment malfunction, pinch points, hot or cold temperatures, and inclement weather.

PPE Requirements: Gloves, safety glasses, hearing protection, closed toe shoe, safety vest (if working near roadside), long pants.

Schedule: Seasonal. Commences in the Spring within the month of March. Activity concludes into the fall and should cease in October.

Inspection

- Check equipment for damage.
- Check fluids (mixed gas & oil) 1- 6.4 oz bottle Stihl 2-cycle oil per 2.5 gallons of gasoline.
- 2-cycle oil can be purchased at **FM Supply**.
- Inspect edger blade to make certain the blade is tightened and in safe operating condition. Check for cracked, bent, or damaged blade. Replacement edger blades can be purchased at **FM Supply**.

Operation

- Before starting equipment, check surroundings to ensure no other persons are within 10' distance.
- Turn choke to ON position.
- Pull start cord until you hear ignition.
- Turn choke to the OFF position once ignition is engaged.
- Edger is to be held firmly with both hands when in operation.
- Continuously survey forward workspace for debris in need of removal, rocks, twigs, litter, and other debris.
- Always stop operation when pedestrians or vehicles are approaching to avoid potential accidents.
- Always check surroundings to ensure no pedestrians are following behind and never swing edger around oneself without visual confirming the area is clear.
- When operation is completed, secure equipment for next use.