

Hazard Review

- **Hearing loss**
- **Flying debris**

Related Safe Work Practices

- **Fuel Safety**
- **Power Tools**

Required Personal Protective Equipment

- **Safety Glasses**
- **Hearing Protective Device**
- **Long pants**
- **Face Shield (optional)**
- **Leather gloves**

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Issued:	5/18/01

BEFORE

1. Read the owner's manual to familiarize yourself with the controls and how to use the machine safely. Be sure you know how to disengage and stop it quickly.
2. Carefully survey the working area. Have children, pets, and bystanders move a safe distance away. Be aware of your immediate surroundings at all times.
3. Remove sticks, stones, bottles, and other debris that could be thrown by the machine.
4. Check the condition of the edger blade and belt. Make repairs, replace necessary parts, and tighten loose bolts before using.
5. Fill the engine with fuel out of doors. Never fuel when the engine is running or has not had a few minutes to cool down (see *Fuel Safety*). Check the oil level as well.
6. If using an electrically-operated unit, be certain that it is properly grounded or is double-insulated.

DURING

1. Never operate the engine inside a building in order to prevent deadly carbon monoxide buildup.
2. Be sure the blade is disengaged before attempting to start the engine.
3. Hold the edger with both hands in a comfortable, well-balanced stance.
4. Keep your hands and feet well clear of the cutter blade.
5. Watch the discharge direction carefully. Direct it away from people, pets, children, windows, etc. Be alert for situations that could ricochet material.
6. Disengage and stop the engine before adjusting or repairing. Unplug electric models. Wait for all parts to stop moving.

AFTER

1. Clean the edger parts.

Store the edger safely out of reach of children.