

*Hazard Review*

- **Repetitive Strain Injury**
- **Back Injury**

*Related Safe Work Practices*

- **Lifting and Body Mechanics**

*Required Personal Protective Equipment*

- **Disposable Dust Mask (optional)**
- **Fuel Safety**
- **Hearing Protective Device**
- **Safety Glasses**

*Authority*

- **CCR Title 8 Section 3440**

Prepared by:	Landscape SWP Working Group
Program Managers:	R. DeLeon, Northern Sup't; A. Jones-Taylor, Southern Sup't
Approved by:	J. Bramlett, EHS Program Manager E. Goldstein, General Manager
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**BEFORE**

1. Read the owner's manual completely. Learn the purpose of all levers and controls. Be sure you can stop the machine quickly.
2. Always inspect the machine for loose, broken, or damaged parts. Make needed repairs or replacements before using.
3. Be sure all shields and guards are in place.
4. Fuel the engine out of doors while stopped and cool. If refueling wait several minutes for engine to cool (see *Fuel Safety*)
5. If using an electric tiller that is not double insulated, you should plug it into a 3-prong socket, grounded outlet using a properly sized 3-wire extension cord. Using a Ground Fault Interrupter circuit gives maximum safety protection.
6. Dress properly for the job: Wear snug-fitting clothing in good condition.
7. Clear the work area of potential safety hazards such as wire, stones, bottles, cans, sticks, etc.
8. Be sure there are no children, pets, or bystanders in the working area.

9. Do not use the tiller near underground utilities, irrigation pipes, trees, etc.

## **DURING**

1. Never start the engine in a closed building.
2. Keep hands and feet clear of all moving parts.
3. Do not operate in wet or slippery conditions. This is especially important for electric models.
4. Be sure the depth regulator is engaged before starting the tiller. Failing to do this could cause the machine to lurch quickly away from you.
5. Disengage the tiller and stop the engine to inspect for damage if you hit an obstruction. Repair any damage before resuming.
6. Never leave the machine running and unattended.
7. Always disengage the tines when turning or transporting the tiller.
8. Never attempt to lift the tiller by yourself if transporting to a distant location. Drive the machine up secure ramps or ask for assistance if it must be lifted.
9. Tie machine securely to prevent rolling.

## **AFTER**

1. Make needed repairs or replacements before using again.