WARNING GAS POLE HEDGE TRIMMER

Any piece of equipment can be dangerous if not operated properly. **YOU** are responsible for the safe operation of this equipment. The operator must carefully read and follow any warnings, safety signs and instructions provided with or located on the equipment. Do not remove, defeat, deface or render inoperable any of the safety devices or warnings on this equipment. If any safety devices or warnings have been removed, defeated, defaced, or rendered inoperable, **DO NOT USE THIS EQUIPMENT!!!**

REQUIRES REGULAR GAS!!!

WARNING: Operating, servicing, and maintaining this equipment can expose you to chemicals including engine exhaust, carbon monoxide and lead, which are known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. To minimize your exposure, avoid breathing exhaust, do not idle the engine except as necessary, operate and service your equipment in a well-ventilated area and wear gloves or wash your hands frequently when servicing your equipment. For more information go to <u>www.P65warnings.ca.gov</u>

- Use extreme caution whenever operating, moving, loading, or unloading this equipment. During and after operation the Muffler & other components are Extremely Hot & will cause Serious Burns.
- Never operate power equipment of any kind if you are tired or if you are under the influence of alcohol, drugs, medication, or any substance that could affect your ability or judgment. Be alert! If you get tired while operating this equipment, take a break. Tiredness may result in loss of control.
- Provide adequate ventilation when operating this equipment. Internal combustion engines consume oxygen and give off deadly carbon monoxide gas. Never run the engine indoors!
- Do not tape down or otherwise by-pass any safety devices! Always operate this equipment from the designated operator's position.
- Use extreme caution: The blades are very sharp, use caution when transporting and operating! Keep your hands, feet and all other body parts clear of the blades at all times.

WARNING! Persons using this trimmer near energized overhead power lines are at risk of electrocution. Contact between the trimmer and overhead power lines causes serious and often fatal injuries. <u>Operate this unit from the ground only, never from ladder.</u>

SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Always wear eye and hearing protection. We recommend wearing a face shield as additional face and eye protection.

Always wear a hard hat to reduce the risk of head injuries during the operation of this unit.

Wear sturdy footwear with non-slip soles to provide good footing. Steel-toed boots are recommended. Never operate bare footed!

Wear non-slip heavy-duty work gloves to improve your grip on the hedge trimmer handle. Wear snugfitting clothes that also permit freedom of movement. NEVER wear shorts!

IMPORTANT SAFETY RULES TO FOLLOW

THE HEDGE TRIMMER IS NOT INSULATED AGAINST ELECTRICAL SHOCK!

Approaching or contacting electrical line with the pruner could cause death or serious injury. Keep the hedge trimmer at least 33 feet away from electrical lines or branches that contact or could contact electrical lines.

KEEP A PROPER FOOTING and do not overreach, maintain your balance at all times during operation. Do not begin cutting until you have a clear work area & secure footing. **Operate this unit from the ground only, never from a ladder, or other elevated surface, or platform.** WARNING!

Hedge Clipper blades are very sharp. Touching them may lead to severe personal injury. Avoid touching blades whenever possible, and always wear gloves to protect hands.

KEEP BYSTANDERS AT LEAST 50 FEET AWAY from the operating hedge trimmer to reduce the risk of being struck by falling objects, thrown debris or the hedge trimmer.

ALWAYS OPERATE WITH BOTH HANDS FIRMLY GRIPPING THE UNIT.

Keep a firm grip on the hedge trimmer with both hands whenever the engine is running. A firm grip will help reduce the effects of kickback and pinching as well as maintaining control of the unit. Before you start the engine, make sure the blades are not contacting anything.

Note: Do not attempt any adjustments or repairs on this unit without first consulting A Tool Shed, and never with the engine running.

- Never allow young children or any person unfamiliar with the hedge trimmer to operate it.
- Keep all parts of your body from the blades when the engine is running.
- When cutting branches that are under tension, be alert for spring back so that you will not be struck by moving branches.
- Keep the handles dry, clean, & free of oil or fuel.
- Never transport the articulated hedge trimmer or leave it unattended with the engine running. An engine that is running could be accidently accelerated causing the blades to oscillate.
- Make sure that the blade cover is in place when transporting/storing the articulated hedge trimmer.
- Always make sure that the cutter attachment & all handles & guards are properly installed & firmly tightened before operation.
- Never use a cracked or warped cutter or cutter bar, immediately return it to the rental center.
- Make sure there are no missing or loose fasteners, & that the stop switch & throttle controls are working properly.
- Never smoke or light fires near the hedge trimmer. Keep the unit away from excessive heat. Engine fuel is very flammable, & fire could lead to serious personal injury or property damage.
- Immediately stop the engine with the stop switch if the tool suddenly begins to vibrate or shake.
- Always stop the engine immediately & check for damage if you strike a foreign object or if the machine becomes tangled. Do not operate with broken or damaged equipment.
- If a cutter should bind fast in a cut, shut off the engine immediately. Push the branch or tree to ease the bind & free the cutter.
- Never modify or disable any of the hedge trimmer's safety devices. Doing so may cause damage and lead to personal injury.
- Do not make unauthorized modifications to the articulated hedge trimmer or its components.
- Keep the cutters sharp and properly adjusted.
- Never allow the engine to run at high speed without a load. Doing so could damage the engine.
- When transporting the hedge trimmer in a vehicle, tie it down securely to prevent fuel spillage or damage to the machine.
- Never place flammable material close to the engine muffler & never run the engine without the spark arrestor screen in place.

REFUELING

ALWAYS inspect the unit for fuel leaks before each use. During each refill, check that no fuel leaks from around the fuel cap and/or fuel tank. If fuel leaks are evident, stop using the unit. Use caution when handling fuels. Always shut the engine off & allow it to cool before refueling, move at least 10 feet from the fueling point before starting the engine. **NEVER** smoke while refueling or refuel by open flame or fires & never run the engine without the spark arrestor screen in place.

If the person receiving this handout will not be the user of the equipment, forward these instructions to the operator. If there is any doubt as to the operation or safety of the equipment.

DO NOT USE!!! CALL A TOOL SHED IMMEDIATELY!!!

FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS COULD RESULT IN INJURY OR DEATH