

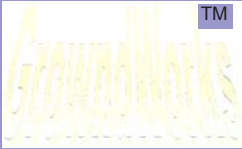
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Forest Applications

Training for the Forest's Future!

NEWS

See the Green through the Woods...

By Tim Ard

Green's that is. Golf Green's. It is a joyous occasion as I sit writing this article. A training team is in Kansas City preparing for a new Forest Applications Training venture event; training applied to Chain Saw, Trimmer and Z mower operators of the Golf Industry.

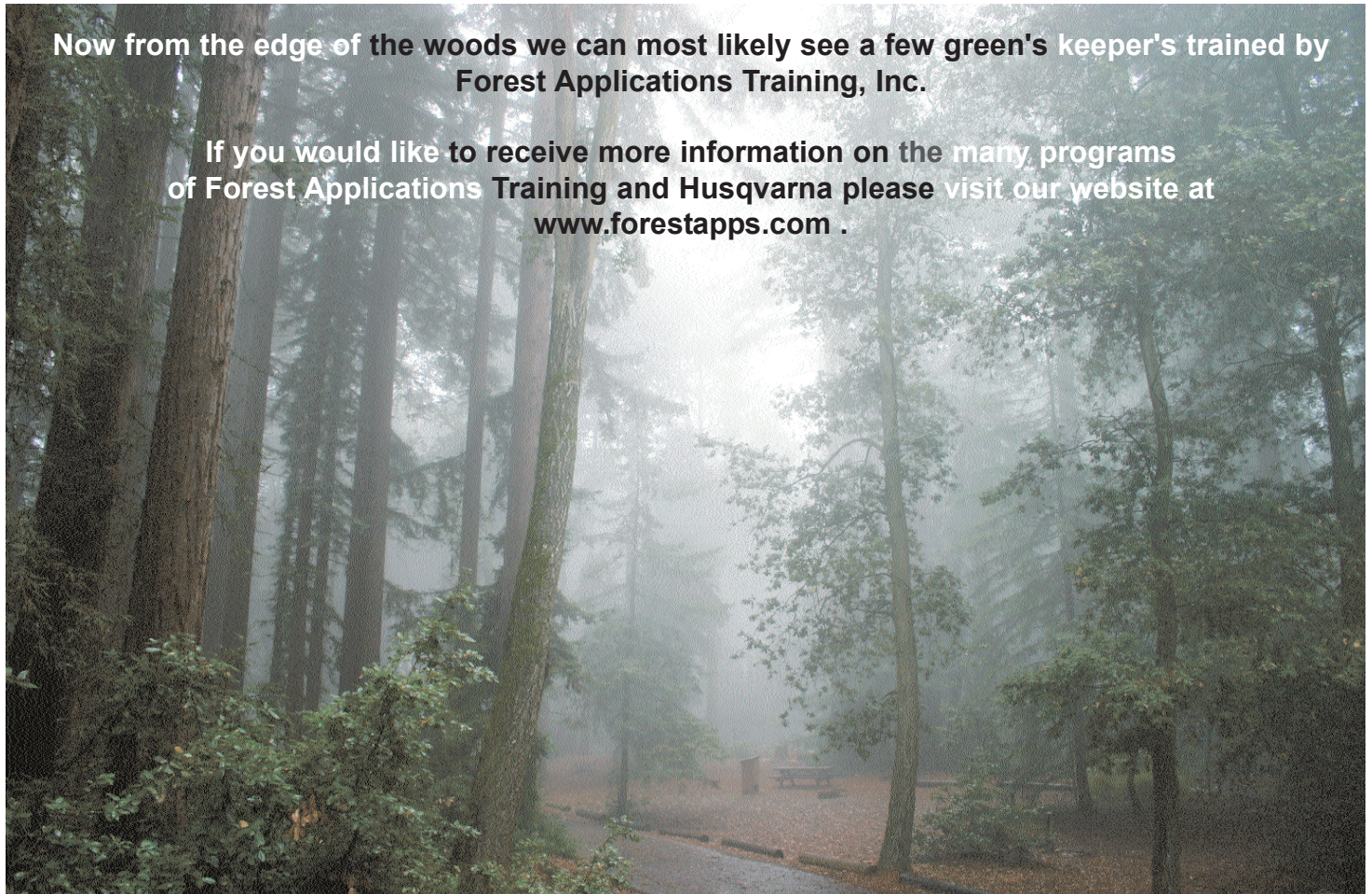
There are more than 16,000 golf courses across the country and every one of them uses power equipment. The chain saw is a very valuable tool to the golf course maintenance crew. Many of them (operators) have had no professional training regarding safety and use. Some of the situations are critical storm damage debris removal and have to be completed before tee time at sunrise.

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has awarded .3 CEU's for the Husqvarna / Forest Applications Chain Saw IL3 workshop. This means that golf courses can utilize our program for their accumulation of annual continuing education points. At the same time they can receive valuable information regarding use and maintenance of the chain saw in their application.

If you work on a golf course or play on one, please help us spread the word that Forest Applications Training has some goods for the greens as well as the woods.

Now from the edge of the woods we can most likely see a few green's keeper's trained by Forest Applications Training, Inc.

If you would like to receive more information on the many programs of Forest Applications Training and Husqvarna please visit our website at www.forestapps.com .



Power Applications

Making Time - Productively

By David Breeden

In our last discussion, we spoke about increasing our awareness of safety in zero turn mower operations. As we continue our series on zero turns, I would like to discuss something that is often overlooked but is also very important.

Regardless of whether you are a homeowner or a professional landscape contractor the name of the game is to increase productivity. If you have ever attended a Forest Applications Training event you know that ample time is spent in the area of R.D.T. or Reduced Down Time. When we hear about the concept of increased productivity we often immediately think of doing a job faster which sometimes leads to more quantity but rarely results in increased quality. While improved technique is important, we believe that productivity can be dramatically increased by reducing the amount of time that equipment is inoperable or out of service.

Everyone should know the value of maintenance whether it be routine or preventative but commonly we neglect to do these things because we think it takes too much time. In our training classes the participants are often amazed at how little time is required to make sure equipment is operating at peak performance. The key to any preventative maintenance program lies in a series of daily checks that can be performed before the workday begins or when it is completed.

Regardless of your approach, you are sure to achieve an increase in productivity if you follow these five steps:

1) Safety features- Check all safety features to make sure they are all in place and working properly.

2) Visual check- As with the safety features, a proper look at the entire machine for obvious problems is necessary. Visually look for missing nuts or bolts. Check to see that the belts are in good shape. Are the linkages in working order. Are there any fuel or oil leaks? Look for "Duct Tape" this is usually the sign of an underlying problem that needs attention.

Fluids- Check the fuel to assure you will not run out during operation. Most machines are designed to run all day on a single fill-up. If the machine is filled every evening or morning, the likelihood of running out of fuel is greatly reduced. Oil is lifeblood of the engine. Make sure the engine oil level is correct every day. The hydraulic oil level needs to be checked daily as well. Check to make sure that the oil level is no more than 1 inch below the fill spout on the reservoir. Some machines also require a liquid coolant. If operating a liquid cooled machine, check the coolant level daily as well. Never check the coolant level of a machine that is "hot" or recently been used.

The fluid can violently boil over causing burns.

3) Air Filter- The air filter is the "nose" of the machine. If your nose is clogged, it requires more of an effort to breathe. This will eventually effect your performance and you'll begin to lose power. The same applies for a mower. Check the air filter daily and make sure it's clean. Ideally, you should be able to remove most of the debris with a small brush or by simply knocking it out. Some light pressurized air can be used to blow out the filter but be aware that too much pressure can damage a filter. You should also use eye protection whenever blowing out an air filter. The inner filter on a canister style filtration system can also be cleaned with warm, soapy water.

4) Deck / Blades- First, check to make sure the underside of the deck is clean of heavy grass buildup. For a deck to work properly, the underside needs to be clear for air to flow unobstructed. The more grass clippings that collect under a deck, the less the machine will be able to disperse the clippings properly. This can cause loss of power and poor cut quality. A deck should always be pitched a little lower in the front edge than the rear. Ideally, anywhere from ¼" to ½" difference in height from front to rear is acceptable for the best quality of cut and dispersal. Often times, just a quick look at the deck on a level surface can indicate if this pitch is improper. Some effects of an improperly pitched deck is significant grass blowing out from the front of the deck, a loss of power in the cut, or a general poor quality of cut. If any of this occurs, have the machine inspected for proper pitch. Another leading cause of poor cut quality or loss of power in the cut is dull or bent blades. Blades should be sharpened daily. An important part of sharpening is balancing. As a blade is sharpened, it is inevitable that more material will be taken from one side over the other. A blade should have equal weight on each side. A blade balancing tool should be used each time a blade is sharpened. Bent or heavily damaged blades should be discarded and always use gloves when working with blades! Check blade belts for fraying or damage as well as pulleys for cracks or other damage

5) Frame- Check the frame of the machine for obvious signs of cracks and/or other damage. Check tire pressure(most commercial zero turn mowers perform better with 10 - 15 psi) improper or unequal tire pressure can cause tracking to become out of adjustment. Since most zero turns operate with separate pump and wheel motor systems a common problem is that the mower will tend to drift to one side or the other, this often occurs when one tire is over running the tire on the opposite side. The operator in an effort to compensate will pull back on the control arm that controls the faster side which reduces the overall speed of the machine.

Always refer to your owners manual for proper adjustment but typically this is done by simply adjusting the linkage rods that connect the pump and the control arm. If you cannot find the proper adjustment see a qualified service technician. Keep pump bays and all other areas free of grass and other debris. This will allow you to detect problems or leaks in a more timely manner; grass in the pump bay will also generate more heat which is a detriment to the hydraulic system.

These simple steps performed daily will not only make you more productive but will also make you safer. In the process, minor problems are detected long before they become major issues.

Mow safe,
David B.



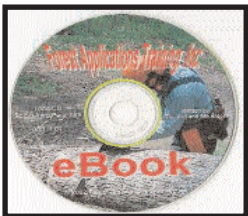
Up A Tree...

Is it important to know how tall a tree may be? If there are hazards and obstacles within its reach, it may well be! Now you can be a bit more confident in your planning process before felling a tree. The Cross-Sight from Forest Applications Training, offers you pocket size tree measurement. Folding to fit easily in your pocket, you can now have a tool at hand to quickly size up a tree.

You can read more about the Cross-Sight on our web at <http://www.forestapps.com>. The tool may be purchased from **our eStore on the web**. The cost is \$12.00.



Cross-Sight



Find out more on our
NEW e-book...
*The Complete Guide to Chain Saw
Safety & Directional Felling*

Visit our website at
www.forestapps.com



LAURA'S CORNER

Cost

By Laura Ard

Cost - the total spent for goods or services including money and time and labor.

What does it cost to hold a training event in your area?

As I work with many interested customers one of the most asked questions is "what is it going to cost us?"

Example -

Chain Saw Two Days hands-on workshop at \$1200.00 per day.
Travel is \$1.25 per mile which includes meals, lodging, and diesel.
Instructor travels round trip from Atlanta, GA to Hope RI
Total miles round trip - 2077 x 1.25 = \$2596.00

For most training events the travel is shared since we are coming from or going to another training associated with this tour. So let's say we have two other training areas scheduled while out on this round trip travel. We would take the \$2596.00 and divide it by 3 which would = \$865.00 per training organization. The grand total for the Hope, RI training would be \$3265.00. Now let's break that down per day, per person.

\$3265.00 divided by 2 = \$1632.50 per day

\$1632.50 divided by 12 (15 is max for the class) = \$136.04 per person per day

Cost - a sacrifice, loss, or penalty

My question is what does it cost when an injury occurs with one employee?

ER visit

Follow up visits with Doctors, Rehab

Loss of productivity due to the employee unable to work

Worker's Compensation rate increase

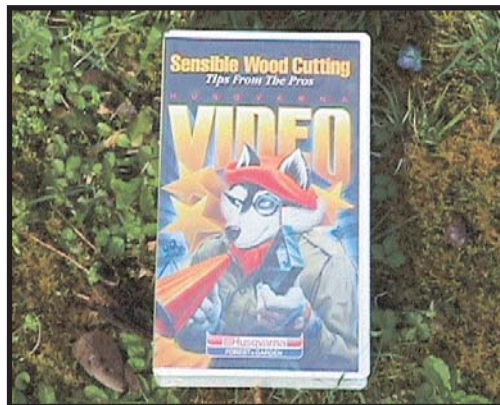
OSHA - penalties

The training of your employee in the use of outdoor power equipment has "costs". But what is the "cost" if you don't...?

It may be a little early for New Year resolutions but I figure if we start now maybe by January 1 we will be ready to stick with it. As Tim tells the groups in class that we need to have a plan when felling a tree, I see that organizing training also needs a plan. Let's talk "Cost" Call Laura Ard Today - 770-845-4784.

Now scheduling programs for spring and summer 2007.

Sensible Woodcutting Videos are still available. Contact us via the website registration and we will send it to you no charge!
<http://www.forestapps.com>



Need chain saw safety material to use for your tailgate and scheduled safety meetings? The Forest Applications Website has articles and pictures you are welcome to use. Surf around the site when you get a little time...

Another great resource is our Forest Applications eBook. You can access it through your laptop on a tailgate for a super presentation to your employees. Pick a technique or discuss a hazardous situation with the crew - all at a click of the mouse. Or with the SP version you can print a section for your use. Give it a look-see at www.forestapps.com

Chain is Chain...?

By Tim Ard

Some people say that chain is chain and price is the differentiator. Some people say chain is chain and they like one brand over another because one is faster, one is harder, one is easier to sharpen, one stay's sharper longer, etc....

I've noticed one very common thread in all chain. It's either sharp or it's getting dull. I use Oregon® chain (or Oregon® branded Husqvarna) in all my saw work. I think it is superior chain not only because of its time proven design but because the people that make it are fantastic. It does the job for me in everything I have tried to cut with it to date. To be very truthful... the biggest concern I have with their saw chain is my ability to sharpen it. I remember for years, and still today, pushing the fact hard in training. The fact that an understanding of the cutter tooth will help us maintain saw chain properly.

One way the engineers at Oregon® Cutting Systems made this clear to me was when they asked me to bring a used chain to a training session at the plant in Clackamas, OR. They asked me to specifically bring in a loop that I had sharpened to my best ability. They placed my chain on an opaque projector looking device that compared my sharpened cutters to a new loop of chain. Wow, embarrass-



Forest Applications Training, Inc. is proud to have Oregon® as a National Sponsor of this News publication and our training programs across the country.

Visit the Oregon® website at <http://www.oregonchain.com>. You can find a lot of information on products, safety and general use of chain saws as well as purchase from their unique on-line dealer system. Let'em know where you heard about it... Tim

ing.... My angles were imperfect; my eye had missed a lot of damage areas. What did this mean? My sharpening skills had some sharpening of their own to complete. It is a never ending work in progress; chain is never dulled or sharpened exactly the same way. Damage to the cutters and the skill of the operator to remove it are the difference. Chain repair is somewhat like trees - always different.

Remember if you know what results you plan... results are easier to achieve. How can we ever achieve the best in ability if there is no base line established? My point is, concentrating on the five parts you will know when you achieve results.

Parts of the Cutter Tooth

1. Depth Gauge
2. Point
3. Top Plate Angle
4. Side Plate Angle
5. Top Plate Chisel Angle



(You can find more detail to these parts on www.forestapps.com. Visit the Tim's Tips link).

Now, once you have familiarized yourself with the "goal" - let's look at the "kicker" awhile. There are several great filing devices available on the market. Possibly one of the best and quickest is still the bench grinder. Some folks detest using a grinder on a saw chain. They say it burns the tooth, causing it to lose its temper. It makes it hard or makes it too soft. My theory is... it may not be the grinder it may be the grind-ee? If the grinder isn't set up and adjusted properly and some time given to practice positive results, most likely a negative job will be had. Too often operators try to take off way too much, way too fast, with a chain grinder.

With hand held devices much the same can be true. In all my days, or at least the last twelve years or so, I have been using hand held sharpening devices like the Oregon® sharp-

ening tools, the Husqvarna Roller/Combi-Guide or the Husqvarna SharpForce/PFERD Chain Sharp. I have had great results with all of these tools and all of them will complete the task with excellence. (I think the Husqvarna SharpForce/PFERD Chain Sharp is the fastest and easiest to use of any hand held device I have tried). My next comment... are these handheld devices accurate? The same as with the bench grinder, it depends on the understanding and practice of the operator.

Some common considerations:

To make sure the top is filed correctly, try to line the filing device with the tooth top cutting edge or the witness mark to maintain the designed angle.

Hold the file and or device with your thumb on top of the handle so as you file through your elbow moves in a straight line instead of a curved motion. Position your body directly behind the top angle of the cutter.

When stroking (pushing) the file, apply pressure only to the forward stroke. Most all files cut only in the forward stroke. If you apply pressure in the return stroke the file will be dulled and possibly your cutter edges also.



Apply pressure toward the side angle of the cutter. Don't press down as you file forward, but with more of a back pressure. You want to maintain the file position in the cutter so the top radius of the file is approximately 1/5 or 20% above the top plate and point.

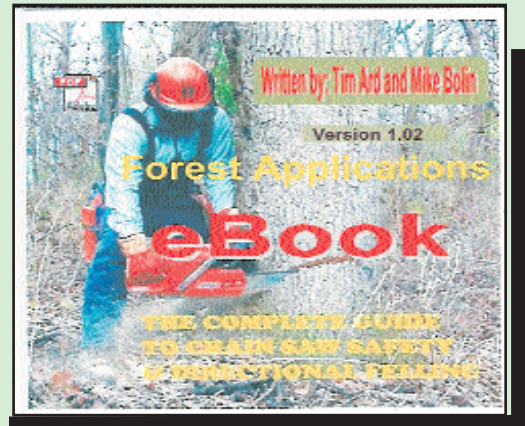
Too much down pressure on the file or device will cause the file to ride under the top plate chisel angle and cause the cutter to be hooked. This "thins out" the chisel angle and the point (working corner) causing possible premature dulling and also could cause sticking/grabbing of the tooth in the wood fiber.



eBook

Order your eBook online at the New Forest Applications Training eStore.
<http://www.forestapps.com/e-book/eStore.htm>

The Forest Applications Training eBook has over 200 pages, 180 photos and 13 unique video clips. All can be read, seen and played from your computer. This is a great training tool for tail-gate sessions, new employees or just as a great refresher for yourself. Get yours today for as little as \$19.95 including shipping and handling from the eStore. Pay by credit card on the secure authorize.net pay connection from our website or call 770-222-2511 to place your order. If you're not computerized... a black and white printed version is available for only \$ 29.95 + \$4.00 shipping and handling.



Lions & Tigers & Bears.....Oh My!

Cary Shepherd National Training Specialist / Forest Applications Instructor

In the last edition of Forest Applications News I wrote about "The views, all of which were without sighting of a bear or eagle as Tim has told me about, but beautiful nonetheless." Tim has seen many of both in the wild and I have seen approximately, rounding off to the nearest whole number, Zero. However, I now stand corrected! On August 28th while pulling into Allis Hollow Equipment in Rome, Pa. for a saw training class Brad, having read about my lack of sighting, pulled me out of my truck to show me a Bald Eagle that had just landed in view. Unbelievable, I was at a loss for words. I can hear all of you saying right now "Cary, at a loss for words.....that's unbelievable." After viewing this beautiful bird for some time the next words out of my mouth to Brad were "Show me a bear and I'll wax your truck!" I can hear all of you again saying right now "Cary putting his foot in his mouth.....now that's believable."

Later while driving into town for supper that night, across the road in front of us walked a 375lb. Momma Bear and her 3 cubs. Absolutely beautiful and another dream come true. Now it's not the Turtle Wax and elbow grease that has me worried about honoring my deal with Brad, it's the mail box, the flower bed, and the fence row I took out with my truck at the sight of those bears. These sightings were an omen of two wonderful days of training spent with the great people of Allis Hollow Equipment and their customers. Thank You Brad, Bea, John, Kathy, June, Donald, and Lee. "Wax on, Wax off!"



insurance carriers, and other interested experts. The Z133 Committee continues to monitor tree trimming safety performance, providing interpretation and clarification of the intent of the requirements.

The contents of the standard are categorized by requirements pertaining to: General Safety, Electrical Hazards, Safe Use of Vehicles and Mobile Equipment, Portable Power Hand Tools, Hand Tools And Ladders, and Work Procedures. There are also seven very informative annexes in the standard which contain a wide variety of related arboricultural information on everything from General Safety Procedures That Apply to All Tree Work, to the Weight of Green Logs, and even an Aerial Rescue Flowchart.

Portions of the safety standard have been adopted by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

This standard is reviewed on a continual basis by the committee and reviewed by the public. There have been 6 revisions with the 2006 revision undergoing significant changes. Copies of the ANSI Z133 can be ordered or viewed on line from the ISA at 1-888-ISA-TREE or www.isa-arbor.com

American National Standard Z133

Cary Shepherd National Training Specialist / Forest Applications Instructor

I am very proud to be a voting member of the Accredited Standards Committee which develops and monitors the ANSI Z133 voluntary standard for arboricultural safety performance. The purpose of this standard is to provide safety criteria for arborists and other workers engaged in arboricultural operations. It is intended as a guide to federal, state, and local authorities in drafting their regulations and may be adopted in whole or in part. This standard was developed in 1971 by arborists for the arboricultural industry under the procedures of the American National Standards Institute by the Accredited Standards

Committee on Safety in Tree Trimming Operations, Z133. The secretariat of the Z133 Committee is held by the International Society of Arboriculture.

The Accredited Standards Committee Z133 was organized on April 4, 1968, in response to efforts by Mrs. Ethel M. Hugg of Johnstown, New York. Mrs. Hugg's son had died while trimming trees, and this tragic incident caused her to write to federal and state authorities, and to various safety organizations, in an attempt to have measures initiated that would make tree trimming safer.

The Z133 Committee was organized with the National Arborist Association, (now the Tree Care Industry Association) as secretariat. Committee delegates included representatives of industry, labor, the academic community, government, equipment manufacturers,



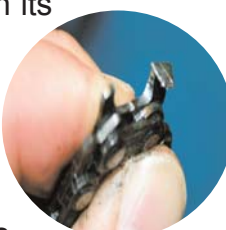
Not enough correctly applied pressure will let the file ride high on the cutter and cause a flattened chisel angle.



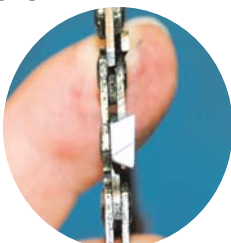
Excessive down pressure on filing devices, like depth gauge tools or SharpForce tools, can cause depth gauge settings to be lower than specifications. Make sure these devices are held perpendicular to the bar also to insure a flat filing of the depth gauge.



Depth gauges need to be checked closely after filing to make sure they are shaped properly. As the depth gauge (Raker) is taken down, the front edge will become flat or sharp. The front needs to be rounded slightly to maintain its original radius.



Look over every cutter on the loop carefully. You want to identify any bent links, cracks on the rivet or tie straps. Especially look at each cutter to make sure the five tooth parts are not damaged and are maintained at the proper angles. Bent links and straps can cause the chain to not track correctly. If they are binding in the rivets, or are tight in the bar rail, the chain will most likely chatter or grab when cutting. These situations need to be repaired or the loop discarded.



A properly sharpened chain will cut as fast and smooth as a new one if you make sure everything is filed correctly. You are in control of your sharpening device. Don't just sharpen to be sharpening.... Manage and practice positive results!

Good Sawing!

Husqvarna

Tough Name. Tough Equipment.™

Back to the Ranch...

For years the most popular chain saw has been in the 50cc to 55cc range for firewood, farm and ranch use. Husqvarna has offered a leader in this range for several years with its Rancher series. Now the Husqvarna Rancher with its Farm Tough branded guide bar is breaking new ground.

The new latest technology 455 Rancher is offering compliance to the progressing EPA emissions standards and keeping the power and versatility of a two-cycle chain saw around for many years to come. They have developed a way of reducing the emissions output while increasing fuel economy and engine power. That's not all... they have even made it a thing of the past to carry tools with you to the job. Take note of the new tool-less design for adjusting the chain tension. It's so simple to tighten the chain and the side cover without having a bar wrench.

Check out the ranch, I mean...

Rancher at a Husqvarna dealer near you!



Husqvarna's 455 Rancher is the latest technology in 2-cycle. Easy starting, low emissions, safety features and...

All new Tool-less bar and chain tensioning system.



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Upcoming Training and Events...

Check the Website for up-to-date schedule listings

October 2006	
6-8	Timber Show - Nelsonville, OH - Cary
10-11	KY LTAP Saw Workshops - Tim
14-15	Greensburg, PA Saw Workshops - Cary
17	ANSI Z133 Meeting - Cary
17-19	Sunbelt Expo, Moultrie, GA - Tim
23-27	VA DOT - Cary
24-27	Husqvarna Training, Charlotte, NC - Tim
30-31	Cape Cod, MA - Saw Workshop - Tim
November 2006	
1	Cape Cod, MA - Debris Workshop - Tim
1	Cabela's Saw Workshop - Hamburg, PA - Cary
2-3	Baystate Roads, Belchertown, MA - Tim
3	Cape Cod, MA Debris workshop - Cary
6	Baystate Roads, Belchertown, MA - Debris Class - Tim
6-10	Massachusetts workshops- Cary
7-10	Cranston, RI Saw workshops - Tim
13-14	Chain saw workshop, Dennis, MA - Cary
14-15	Chain Saw Workshop - MS LTAP - Tim
16-17	Massachusetts chain saw two-day workshop - Cary
17-18	Husqvarna Personnel Saw Training - NC - Tim
27-30	Husqvarna Training, NC - Cary
December 2006	
1-2	Husqvarna Training, NC - Cary
4-8	Santa Clara, CA - Tim
11-15	San Diego, CA - Tim
11-16	Husqvarna Training, NC - Cary

PFERD
 We are amazed at the continued interest in the PFERD Chain Sharp (Husqvarna SharpForce) tool. Everywhere I go people are asking where to buy it and more details as to how to use the tool. - Tim



When you see us next you can check out the new graphics on our ride....



If you haven't -- check out the Forest Applications website. You will find updated calendar events, special articles, up to date news, online newsletter... E-mail your questions, techniques, training interests and ideas of articles you would like to see in the news. All at <http://www.forestapps.com>
 e-mail: info@forestapps.com

eStore
 We have had such a great response to our eStore over the past few months we decided to make it a little more up to date with a real shopping cart service. You can now go to the eStore from several areas of the website and when you do, you can easily select one of the **Forest Applications Training eBooks, Cross-Sight tool, or re-subscribe to the Forest Applications Training Newsletter.** Just fill your shopping cart and click check out. You are taken to a fully secure check out and credit card processing system to complete your order. It's fast, safe and simple and all from the convenience of your computer desk.
www.forestapps.com

Have you tried one or all of the products we show in the News? Husqvarna Saws, Oregon Chain and Bars, PFERD Files, PFERD Chain Sharp/SharpForce, See Clear?
 Send us a note and let us know what you think!
 E-mail us at info@forestapps.com





Husqvarna Begins Rigorous Training of Associates, Dealers, and Customers

By Gent Simmons

Something I have wanted to do ever since I came to Husqvarna is now beginning to take shape. We are embarking on an organized, quality training program for all Husqvarna associates and customers. We have recently begun working closely with our sales team to develop their skills and as you will read below, we are bringing these classes to you!

In my last article, I spoke about how Husqvarna University (our online training program for dealers and associates) is the future of basic training. This e-training platform offers easy access to basic training programs without a dealer having to pay for the training or having to travel to a location hours away. It offers product and service information anytime, 24/7. When you have a question, it's always there. Dealers and associates that complete the University show significant improvements in job performance and profitability. But...what's next?

E-learning trains in two ways, visually and aurally. It's only flaw is in not being able to train kinesthetically (hands on). The obvious next step after online training is to get on the handles with kinesthetic learning. This is why we are now working closely with Tim Ard who is an expert in kinesthetic adult learning. By building off of the format that Tim has created, we can offer a full range of classes covering everything from grass trimmers to commercial mowing equipment. Earlier this year we started the process by building quality curriculum around key product categories. We have completed much of the curriculum and are now implementing the classes to professional landscapers, the forestry industry, government risk agencies, and Husqvarna associates.

We have put a huge amount of effort into getting our Husqvarna Associates through hands on training. The first step in the process is to get each employee through a basic level of training on the e-platform. This is well underway right now. Once complete, all the classes we are now offering to everyone will be opened up to their participation.

Though we've done many associate trainings this year, we had our first real "event"

the last week in September. After each associate had completed all required courses on the online University, Husqvarna's field sales force has now started coming into Charlotte, NC. for their classes.

We started off the first week with the southeast sales team either participating in our two cycle troubleshooting class or our zero turn mower applications class. Two cycle troubleshooting is an informative class which covers the basics of what a two cycle engine needs to properly run... spark, compression, fuel, and air. Then we break it down further into what possible issues can arise with the unit and how can they be identified and addressed. At the same time we were teaching the two cycle class, we taught the zero turn mower class to others. While covering the major points surrounding safety, maintenance, and proper application, we also add a little fun into this event. We've designed a skills test to properly gauge how effective the student is on a zero turn. The course includes proper turning technique, proper mounting and dismounting, backing, and curb hopping. Scores are accumulated, and winners are chosen. But the important thing is not so much the winner as it is how effective we are at demonstrating technique that can make a student more productive, safe, and efficient.

Day two was a full day. Four classes were taught surrounding chainsaws, utility vehicles, grass trimmers and commercial service. The chainsaw class was actually day one of the two day Forest Applications program that you may or may not be familiar with. Once again covering safety, maintenance, and application, the class focuses on how each student can be more effective at the felling process. Each student gets the chance to put what they've learned to use by felling their own tree on day two. The utility vehicle class covers the same format as the other classes but is designed give the student an understanding of the skill and safety involved when operating a utility vehicle. The grass trimmer class is certainly the most underestimated. Not only do we cover technique and safety surrounding trimmers, but we introduce techniques surrounding other landscape maintenance tools such as hedge trimmers, brush cutters, and clearing saws. All of which carry their own brand of technique, safety, and maintenance requirements. The commercial turf service class is taught by members of the Husqvarna service department. It's a valuable class that takes a student through what a commercial mower requires to be maintained and how, by using a few basic tips, you can extend the life on your machine and/or produce better results with your equipment.

Day three continued with chainsaw training but also hosted a session on specialty turf equipment. This covers turf equipment like an aerator, dethatcher, stump grinder, seeder, and sod cutter. How often should you aerate? What's the benefit of dethatching? How do you properly use a stump grinder? How deep should you cut sod? All these questions and more are covered in this class.

Day four focused on commercial walk behind mowers. This class is very similar to the zero turn class but is especially concentrated around proper safe use of commercial walk

behind mowers. Anyone that has spent much time on a walk behind commercial mower knows that they take even more focus and learning to properly use them than zero turns. We put people on the handles and we cover turning skills, backing skills, mowing technique, and keeping the operator and his equipment safe.

The final class on day five was the class that possibly had the most impact, Powercutter's. There is such a wealth of information that is not regularly taught about Powercutter's and blades. Sure we cover safety, maintenance, and application but have you ever thought about the blades themselves? Diamond or abrasive, brazed or laser welded, to slurry or not to slurry and how? All of which we teach in the class and as with all our classes, we offer an experience to get "on the handles" of every piece of equipment we train on.

So what about those that are not employees of Husqvarna? Well, I'm glad you asked! What if every class was available to you? As an end-user, how well do you think you could improve your productivity or profitability with a team of employees that have been well trained on proper application? Now as a dealer, just think of the service you're doing to your customers and community by offering classes designed around safety, proper maintenance, and proper application. Training is a key part of a dealer's marketing campaign. What better way to add value to your customer's business than to make their associates safer and more productive. These are the relationships that last a lifetime!

All our training programs are available to you. If you would like more information on how Husqvarna can train your associates or customers on proper safety, maintenance, and usage in a non biased, instructive format that's fun, yet challenging at the same time, contact us.

Contact Laura Ard at 770-222-2511 or via email at laura.ard@husqvarna.com.

I look forward to seeing you "on the handles".



Don't Forget...

Contact us with your desired training dates for Winter 2006 and Spring 2007

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