

## CHAINSAW SAFETY TALKING POINTS

- The use of powered chainsaws can be dangerous. Be sure to undergo proper training before operating a chainsaw.
- Learning how to operate a chainsaw on storm-damaged trees is extremely dangerous and ill-advised.
- Historically, more individuals are injured by chainsaws than by the storm that caused the initial damage.
- Safety equipment required before operating a chainsaw includes: leather gloves, full face shield or safety goggles, hearing protection, hard hat, long sleeve shirt, long (blue jean) pants, over the ankle leather boots and chainsaw chaps. Also required: first-aid kit, knowledge of chainsaw operation, patience.
- Never work alone; have a partner close by and carry whistles for emergencies if working away from populated areas.
- Always choose the right saw for the job and understand its operation.
- Avoid fatigue, which can cause poor judgment calls.
- Take frequent food and water breaks.
- Never use electric power tools near standing water.
- Trees and limbs can weigh several tons; beware of limbs, trunks and root balls that may be under tension and “kick back” when that tension is released.
- TO FIND A CERTIFIED ARBORIST, VISIT THE GEORGIA ARBORIST ASSOCIATION WEBSITE AT [GEORGIAARBORIST.ORG](http://GEORGIAARBORIST.ORG).