

 <b>DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY</b>	<i>Policy Sponsor:</i> Assistant Vice President Facilities Management	<i>Approval Date:</i> January 2010
	<i>Responsible Unit:</i> Facilities Management	<i>Revisions:</i>
<b>Facilities Management High Pressure Washers Safe Work Instructions</b>		
<b>Service:</b> Trade Services	<b>Shop:</b> Carpentry	
<b>Hazards Identified:</b>  Hazardous products, fluid injection due to skin contact, slippery surfaces, electrocution, being hit in the eye, carbon monoxide fumes, tripping, flying debris, pinch points, burns,		
<b>Personal Protective Equipment Required:</b>  Safety boots, safety gloves, hard hat, eye and face protection, mask, hearing protection		
<b>Training Required:</b>  Before using this equipment employees must be trained by a competent person in its proper use and care and in the proper use, care and storage of all required PPE.		

These safe work practices must be followed at all times and are to be reviewed annually.

1. Only properly qualified employees are to operate this equipment.
2. The required personal protective equipment must be used at all times while the equipment is being operated.
3. Always read and follow the manufacturer's operating manual.
4. During set-up, and on a regular basis when in use, check the equipment for damaged parts.
5. Always have a qualified person service this equipment.

### Electrically Powered

1. Ensure that the voltage of the supply outlet agrees with the requirements specified by the manufacturer.
2. Ensure that the electrical outlet has ground fault interruption protection.
3. Never use with a damaged extension cord.
4. Never use more than one extension cord to reach an outlet.
5. When used with an extension cord ensure the cord is unwound from any drum or coil to prevent shorts across the coils.
6. Ensure that all electrical connections are protected from water immersion.

### Gas Powered

1. Do not add fuel to the washer in an enclosed area, provide adequate ventilation or fuel outside.
2. Do not add fuel while the washer is running.
3. Do not add fuel when the equipment is hot.
4. Use CSA approved containers for fuel storage.
5. Do not fuel equipment on or around combustible materials.
6. Clean up any fuel spills immediately.
7. Ensure that there are no ignition sources in the area where you are fueling.

### General Safety Measures

1. Always locate the pressure washer on a solid level surface to ensure engine parts are lubricated properly during operation.
2. Locate the washer as close to the water source as possible.
3. Do not use more than a 50 foot length of hose.
4. Never direct the water jet at people or electrical equipment. High pressure spray can penetrate the skin and cause serious injury.

5. Never put your hand or fingers over the spray tip.
6. Only use manufacturer approved parts and attachments.
7. Only use the types of cleaning products supplied or recommended by the manufacturer.
8. Never use the washer to spray solvents, flammable liquids or toxic chemicals.
9. Ensure that the ventilation openings are at least 50 mm from any surface that can act as an obstruction.
10. Always turn the washer off, by following proper shut-down procedures, if it will be left unattended or will not be used for an extended period.
11. Always follow the recommended start-up, operation and shut-down procedures.
12. Never activate the spray gun without a nozzle in the wand.
13. Never attempt to install any type of trigger lock on the gun.
14. Always point the nozzle and the wand at the ground when testing.
15. Always stand a safe distance away from the item being washed to avoid being hit by debris in reflected spray.
16. Always locate the pressure washer so that the operator has quick and easy access to the washer and its controls.
17. Always keep the water supply hose and the wand hose away from high traffic areas to avoid excessive wear or damage.
18. Never attempt to move the washer by pulling on the hose.
19. Ensure that water does not pool in the work area.
20. Do not clean the washer by using the spray wand.
21. Do not operate the washer without being attached to a water supply.

### Engine Precautions

1. Do not operate the equipment if any parts are missing.

2. Only use manufacturer recommended parts and attachments.
3. Do not alter manufacturer selected settings.
4. Do not allow the pump to run for more than two minutes without activating the spray gun.
5. Never use water with a temperature that is hotter than 100 degrees F.
6. Check for leaks before every use and tighten any loose connections.
7. Check for missing "O" rings before every use.