



## Landscape Services

# Safety Standard Operating Procedure

(Revised 3/2023)

### Power Washer Use

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This SSOP provides guidance on the practices established for ***use of the Power Washer***. As with any equipment or tools, the most basic premise for safe operation is reading and adhering to the manufacturer's instructions and warnings. This SSOP is not a substitute for the owner's manual produced by the manufacturer.

**PPE Requirements:** High vis safety vest, hearing protection, safety glasses, closed toe shoes.

**Safety Requirements:** Use cones, signs, barricades to warn and prevent unauthorized personnel and pedestrian traffic from entering the work area.

**Safety Hazards:** Vehicle and pedestrian traffic, Underground and overhead Utilities, lifting, bending, overhead objects, dust, noise, sharp objects, blind spots, equipment malfunction, tip or rollover, pinch points, hot or cold temperatures, and inclement weather.

#### Power Washers

- 712 John Deere heated pressure washer
- 827 Honda
- 828 Honda

#### Nozzle

- Red – 0-degree spray pattern. Most powerful; use with caution.
- Yellow – 15-degree spray patten. Works best for removing mildew, stains, and paint on most surfaces.

#### Pre-Inspection

- Check fuel and oil.
- Inspect discharge hose for wear/ damage.
- Overall inspection of machine for damage.

#### Transport

- Loading and unloading the power washer into the bed of a pickup or UTV requires two (2) people.
- The power washer will be tied down with safety straps to anchors within the bed of the pickup/ UTV.
- When using the power wash trailer, park the trailer in a fashion that does not impede pedestrian or vehicle traffic.

## Fueling

- Add fuel outside or in a well-ventilated area.
- Only use a fuel can with a safety nozzle.
- Do not add fuel to equipment when engine is running.
- Do not add fuel to a hot engine.
- Keep fuel away from heat sources, sparks, and open flames.

## Power Washer Use

- Avoid contact with high pressure steam tips and nozzles.
- Keep hands, hair, and loose clothing away from moving parts.
- Avoid contact with hot parts of engine.
- Safety cones must be in place where water hoses and spray hoses cross sidewalks.
- Equipment will be used to clean all types of spills on concrete and paver surfaces.
- If equipment is being used to remove paint or oily residues, a solvent to release the coating will be necessary. See your Supervisor for the correct solvent.
- Customers must be notified within advance of application and charging.

## Surface Applications

- Sidewalks
- Pavers
- Benches
- Trash receptacles
- Streets

## Cautionary Use

- If the area in need of power washing is near a parking lot, prior notification must be made with ***Parking and Transportation Services*** to block/ cone off the area, to eliminate any damage to vehicles.
- Before 8:00 AM around residence halls.
- Near classrooms during finals week.
- Between classes.
- Near streets. Use safety cones when necessary.

## Winterization

- Disconnect hoses and the gun and wand assembly from the pressure washer, draining as much water as possible.
- Pull on the cord several times with switch/lever in OFF position until water ceases to eject.
- Store the unit in a clean, dry place.