Landscaping – Working with Hand Tools Fatality File



Groundskeeper Killed by Falling Tree Limb During Routine Maintenance

In a tragic incident, a school groundskeeper lost his life while performing routine landscaping duties involving hand tools. While pruning trees on the school premises, a large limb unexpectedly broke loose, striking him and causing fatal injuries. Despite the immediate emergency response, he was pronounced dead at the scene.

This incident underscores the inherent risks associated with landscaping tasks, even when using non-powered hand tools. Proper training, use of personal protective equipment (PPE), and adherence to safety protocols are crucial to prevent such tragedies.

Employers must ensure that all landscaping staff are adequately trained in hazard recognition and safe work practices. Regular safety audits and risk assessments can help identify potential dangers, ensuring a safer working environment for all.

Source: Osha.gov