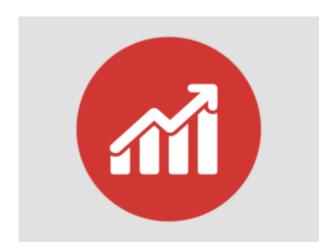
Chippers and Shredders — Landscaping Stats and Facts



FACTS

Primary Hazards Associated with Chippers and Shredders

- 1. **Entanglement and Amputation:** Chippers and shredders have fast-moving blades and mechanisms that can easily entangle clothing, gloves, or body parts.
- 2. **Flying Debris:** The high-speed operation of these machines can cause pieces of wood or debris to be ejected at high speeds.
- 3. **Noise-Induced Hearing Loss:** Chippers and shredders generate high noise levels, leading to hearing damage.
- 4. **Kickback:** If a branch or piece of debris is fed improperly, it can cause the machine to kick back.
- 5. **Strains and Sprains:** Operating these machines often requires significant physical effort, including lifting heavy branches and standing for extended periods.
- 6. **Vibration-Related Injuries:** Prolonged use of chippers and shredders can lead to vibration-related injuries, which affect circulation and nerve function in the hands and arms.
- 7. **Inhalation of Dust and Fumes:** The process of chipping and shredding can generate dust, mold spores, and fumes from engine exhaust, which can cause respiratory problems if inhaled.
- 8. Carbon Monoxide Poisoning: Gas-powered chippers and shredders produce carbon monoxide.
- 9. **Fire Hazards**: The accumulation of dry wood chips and debris around hot engine parts can pose a fire risk.

STATS

- Types of Injuries: The most common injuries include:
 - 36.5% of injuries involve amputations or severe injuries to fingers and hands while feeding material into the chipper.
 - ∘ 15.8% of injuries occur when individuals clear jammed material while the machine is still running.
 - ∘ 14.2% involve amputations of hands, arms, legs, and feet due to being pulled into the machine.
- 3 deaths and 200 injuries occur yearly due to woodchipper accidents in landscaping settings.
- Worker Demographics: Certain groups, such as immigrant workers, temporary workers, and those under 25, face higher risks of injury when operating these machines.

