

Preventing Falls by Maintaining Two Points of Attachment

Job Steps Affected by Today's Topic

Tree climbing with chain saw

Potential Hazards/Risks

Falling
Cutting rope/lanyard
Cuts from the moving saw
Chain saw kickback

Action Steps

Think before you cut! Plan all of your cuts, including hand- and pole-saw cuts. Make sure that you are secured and stable before beginning the cut (two points of attachment are required when using a chain saw in a tree).

Think beyond the cut – look at the path the saw could take after finishing the cut. Think about what else is in the path of the saw that you don't want to cut (body parts, rope, lanyard, gear, hardware, etc.). Do not assume that you can “nick” your climbing line or lanyard without the risk of it failing. A climbing line with the weight of a climber can be severed with a chain saw, hand saw, other cutting tool or sharp object. Nothing is cut-proof. Even steel core lanyards can be severed by a chain saw.



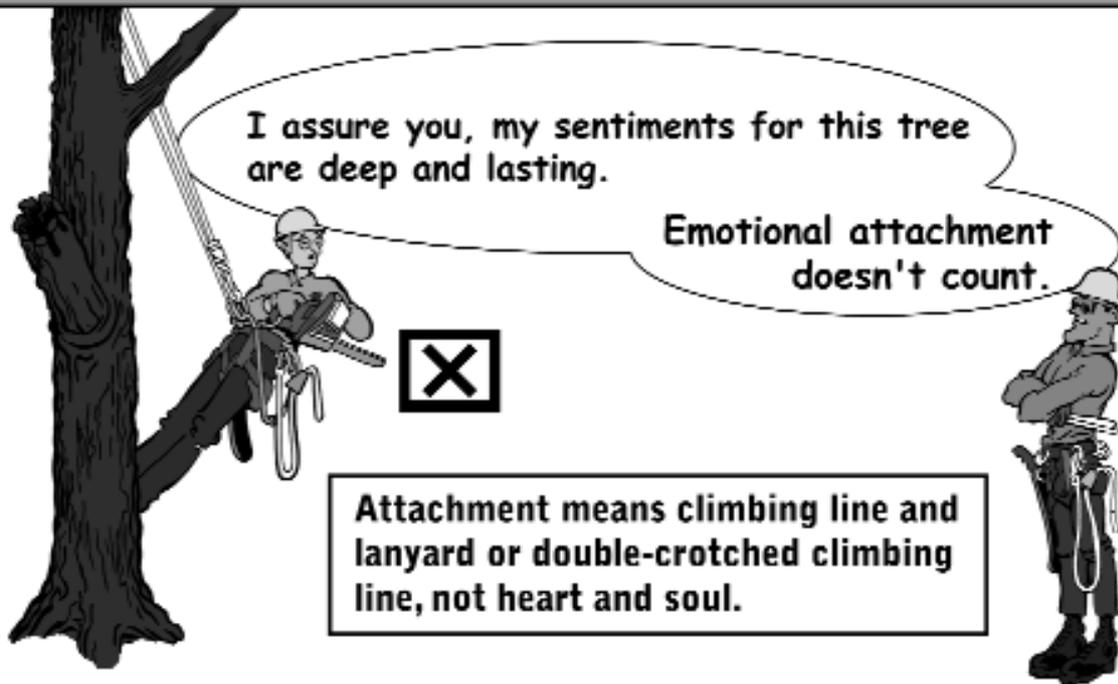
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What else can you do to prevent injuries?



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TWO MEANS OF ATTACHMENT ARE REQUIRED WHEN USING A CHAIN SAW WHILE ALOFT



Employees need to get permission from the employer or supervisor before proceeding with only one method of attachment. The intent is to limit falls

Complete the following:

Name: _____ Date: / / Signature: _____

Multiple Choice Instructions: Select the one statement that best answers each question.

1. Arborists should be secured or tied-in _____.
 - a) only when climbing above 12 feet
 - b) only when climbing alone
 - c) before their second foot leaves the ground
 - d) only when using a chain saw
2. Using two points of attachment while making cuts in a tree is important to insure that _____.
 - a) falls are prevented in case the primary tie-in is cut
 - b) ANSI Z133 is followed
 - c) cuts are avoided by giving the climber better balance
 - d) both a and c
3. Which of the following is a true statement?
 - a) A chain saw can not cut through a steel core lanyard
 - b) Hand and pole pruning tools can not cut climbing lines
 - c) It is safe to use one hand to balance yourself while you use the other to make a chain saw cut.
 - d) It is safe to use one hand to balance yourself while you use the other to make a handsaw cut.
4. According to ANSI Z133 – arborists shall use a second point of attachment when operating a chain saw in a tree – which of the following is not an acceptable attachment?
 - a) double-crotched climbing line
 - b) work positioning lanyard
 - c) climbing system using a false crotch
 - d) none of the above
5. When making a chain saw cut in a tree, it is acceptable to use only one point of attachment if _____.
 - a) using two points will create a greater hazard
 - b) your crewleader isn't looking
 - c) you are using a top-handled saw
 - d) you think you can maintain your balance
6. You can cut your climbing line with _____.
 - a) a hand saw
 - b) a pole saw
 - c) a chain saw
 - d.) all of the above