

# Avoiding Struck-by's from Falling Objects

## Job Steps Affected by Today's Topic

Pruning and removal operations  
Cabling and bracing operations

## Potential Hazards/Risks

Falling limb, branch, or hanger  
Falling hand tools

## Action Steps

### All Workers ...

- ▶ establish the “drop zone” and make sure all crew members know where it is
- ▶ use a voice command and response system to provide warning about falling objects

### When working on the ground...

- ▶ always wear your PPE, especially your helmet.
- ▶ always be aware of the climber's or bucket operator's location and activities
- ▶ always consider that the worker aloft could deliberately drop a limb or accidentally drop a limb or tool at any time
- ▶ coordinate your movement into the drop zone with the activities of the worker in the air
- ▶ always let them know you're there when entering the drop zone.

### When working in the air...

- ▶ always wear your PPE
- ▶ establish a “drop zone” and make sure all crew members know where it is.
- ▶ always be aware of ground personnel's location and activities.

- ▶ always consider that a ground person, a customer, a child or a pet could enter the drop zone at any time. Look and verbally warn others before you drop material. Make sure that your warning is heard and obeyed.



COMMUNICATION BETWEEN WORKERS IS IMPORTANT FOR SAFETY AND PRODUCTION. ESTABLISH COMMANDS AND SIGNALS BEFORE WORK BEGINS.

POSSIBLE COMMANDS

STAND CLEAR  
HEADACHE  
CLEARING

POSSIBLE RESPONSE

ALL CLEAR  
GO AHEAD  
LISTEN



# **Avoiding Struck-by's from Falling Objects**

- ▶ coordinate your movement into the drop zone with the activities of the worker on the ground.

**What else can you do to prevent injuries?**

Complete the following:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: / / Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

1. Which of the following best describes how “voice command and response” is supposed to work?

- a) climber yells “stand clear” and waits five seconds for ground workers to move
- b) climber yells “stand clear” and ground worker replies “all clear”
- c) climber yells “stand clear” and ground worker moves to a safe area before replying, “all clear”
- d) none of the above

2. You can avoid getting a serious “struck-by falling object” injury by \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) establishing the drop zone
- b) becoming the climber
- c) working quickly under the tree
- d) wearing a helmet

3. According to ANSI Z133, \_\_\_\_\_ shall be given by the worker in the tree before a limb is dropped.

- a) warnings
- b) directions
- c) job briefing
- d) instructions

4. Always assume that a climber may drop a \_\_\_\_\_ at any time.

- a) hanger
- b) branch
- c) hand tool
- d) any of the above

5. When more than one worker is in a tree, they should work \_\_\_\_\_ of the tree.

- a) around the crown
- b) on different sides
- c) above the center
- d) all of the above

**True or False Instructions:** Indicate if the statement is true(a) or false (b).

6. Other than ropes or throwlines, only small hand tools or other small objects may be thrown into a tree or between workers aloft.

- a. True
- b. False

7. Pre-arranged hand signals may be used between the worker in the tree and those on the ground if verbal communication isn’t possible

- a. True
- b. False