

ASWP 09 R0

Installation of Hardware in Woody Plants



Revision History

Version	Revision Date	Brief Description of Revisions
R0	February 2016	Document has been updated to new format.

ARBORIST SAFE WORK PRACTICES

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Workplace Safety & Prevention Services wishes to express its appreciation to those who have assisted in the preparation of the **Arborist Safe Work Practices** guide.

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1.0 Introduction

The following are the general mandatory requirements for an arborist when installing hardware in woody plants.

2.0 Hazards

The following hazards have been identified to aid in establishing and maintaining a safe work environment when installing hardware in woody plants:

Biotic conditions

Climatic Conditions

Electrical

Ergonomics

Gravity

Mechanical

Pedestrian and Vehicular traffic

Note: The above list of hazards is not a complete list and a thorough job plan should be completed to identify existing hazards found at the work site.

3.0 Legislation / Safe Work Practices

The following information has been provided listing relevant arborist safe work practices and legislation requirements:

- ASWP01 General Legislation
- ASWP02 Work in a Safe Environment
- ASWP02 Protect Self and Others
- ASWP02 Arborist Job Planning
- ASWP07 Arborist Hand and Power Tools
- ASWP 04 Working at Heights
- Fire Marshall's Act

4.0 Mandatory Information

The following are the general mandatory requirements for an arborist when installing hardware in woody plants.

- All woody plants shall be inspected prior to ascending
- If pruning or dead wooding is required it should be done prior to installing hardware
- Arborists and other workers on the ground should not stand under the work area of a tree when a cabling system is being installed
- The Danger Zone must be identified and controlled when an overhead hazard exists

- Tools shall be raised, lowered and carried in a manner that will not create an overhead hazard
- All appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be worn
- Arborists in trees should be positioned off to one side in order to avoid injury in case of cable system failure, such as when a block and tackle or a hand winch, are released

5.0 Work Practices

The following information will provide general information that is required to place hardware in woody plants.

5.1 Site Inspection

Step	Action
Inspect woody plant	Identify hazards including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electrical wires in close proximity to tree • Signs of tree decay • Cavities, cankers and splits • Dead and broken limbs • Root decay and damage
Inspect tools and equipment required for the work	Inspect tools for hazards including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational • Sharpness • Cracks, damage • Loose connections • Appropriate certification required (i.e. di-electrical testing)
Determine safest route of ascent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspect for structurally sound tie in points • Refer to ASWP03 Climbing Trees and ASWP04 Work at Heights

5.2 Installing Hardware in Tree

Step	Action
Determine location for hardware	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspect tree for defects and hazards associated with the location of the work
Secure work position in the tree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ascend tree as per the Climbing Trees and Work at Heights documents
Raise tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure tools are secured in a tool bag

Step	Action
Drill holes if required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain a firm grip on drills to protect from drill kick back twisting action • Maintain the appropriate Limits of Approach to electrical conductors • Maintain good body positioning while drilling
Install hardware	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install hardware as per industry best practices

5.3 Install Hardware from the Ground

Step	Action
Determine location for hardware	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspect tree for defects and hazards associated with the location of the work
Install hardware	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install hardware as per industry best practices