

# Pruning trees and vines

## Adult responsibilities

### ADULTS NEED TO MAKE SURE:

- Child has safe transport to the field
- Re-entry standards are followed
- Work area has no hazards
- Child has no insect allergies
- Child wears long sleeved shirt, long pants, wide brimmed hat, sunglasses and sunscreen
- Break areas are provided away from the work site with bathrooms and water for drinking and washing hands
- Child has at least one ten-minute break every hour
- Child drinks a quart of fluids every hour



## Can your child do this job?

### ABILITY

If climbing is needed, can the child set and climb the ladder?  
(See "Climbing")

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children must be able to set and climb a ladder to do this job safely.

Are the cutting tools the right size for the child?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! The wrong size tools can cause injury.

Can the child stay focused on a job up to 50 minutes?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children working beyond their attention span are easily distracted and more likely to be injured.

Does the child usually go with his or her "gut" feeling without thinking too much about what could happen next?

- Yes. **!** CAUTION! Children who act on impulse need close supervision.
- No.

Is your child responsible?  
Do you trust your child to do what's expected without anyone checking?

- Yes.
- No. **!** CAUTION! Children who behave irresponsibly need close supervision.

Does the child do things that seem dangerous for the thrill of it?

- Yes. **!** CAUTION! Children who take risks or behave dangerously need close supervision.
- No.

### TRAINING

Has the child been trained to use cutting tools safely?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Training is needed to prevent injury.

Has an adult demonstrated pruning trees and vines on site?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! Children learn best when shown how to do the job at the work site.

Has the child shown he or she can do the job safely 4 to 5 times under close supervision?

- Yes.
- No. **!** CAUTION! An adult must watch constantly until the child shows he or she can do the job.

### SUPERVISION

Can an adult supervise as recommended?

- Yes.
- No. **STOP** STOP! The right level of supervision is key to preventing injuries.

## Supervision

What's the right amount? Here are suggestions—but remember, it depends on the child.

Age 16+:

**CHECK** every few minutes. When the child shows he or she can do the job, **LEAVE** for 15 to 30 minutes, then make sure the child is not showing signs of fatigue.

## Main Hazards



Working up high can lead to falls



Sharp tools can cut skin



Repetitive motion can strain muscles and injure back and joints

## Remember



Non-skid shoes



Eye protection



Leather gloves