	Hurt & Proffitt, Inc. Safety & Health Manual	Policy Section	15
		Page	1 of 3
	Brush Axe & Machete Sharpening Policy	Effective Date	01/01/2023

Brush Axe & Machete Sharpening Policy

Purpose

This Brush Axe & Machete Sharpening Policy establishes company-wide guidelines to ensure that we prevent our employees from injury while sharpening their brush axes and machetes.

Administrative Duties

The Safety Manager is our company's Brush Axe and Machete Sharpening Policy Administrator, he is responsible for developing and maintaining the Brush Axe and Machete Sharpening Policy. This person is solely responsible for all facets of the plan and has full authority to make necessary decisions to ensure the success of this plan. The Safety Manager is also qualified by appropriate training and experience that is commensurate with the complexity of the plan to administer or oversee our Brush Axe and Machete Sharpening Policy and conduct the required evaluations of plan effectiveness.

Copies of this written program may be obtained from <http://my.handp.com> or externally from apps.handp.com.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

The following PPE must be worn when sharpening a brush axe or machete:


American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Z87 approved safety glasses

ANSI cut level A4 gloves

The following methods are acceptable ways to sharpen a brush axe or machete

File Method

- 1-Secure the axe or machete in a vise.
- 2-Hold the file securely in both hands.
- 3-Match the angle of the file to the angle of the blade.
- 4-File away from the sharp edge
- 5-Draw the file across the edge.
- 6-Repeat 5 to 10 times.
- 7-File the other side of the edge 5 to 10 times.

	Hurt & Proffitt, Inc. Safety & Health Manual	Policy Section	15
		Page	2 of 3
	Brush Axe & Machete Sharpening Policy	Effective Date	01/01/2023

8-Repeat this process until the blade is sharp.

Whetstone Method

- 1-Apply lubricant to the stone.
- 2-Position the blade on the stone while matching the angle of the bevel.
- 3-Apply moderate pressure and begin working the edge in small circles.
- 4-Work from one end of the blade to the other.
- 5-Turn the blade over and repeat steps 2 to 4.


Bench Grinder Method

- 1-Start the grinder.
- 2-Hold the brush axe or machete with both hands.
- 3-Match the angle of the blade to the grinding wheel.
- 4-Use light pressure and grind so that the wheel moves away from the blade, not towards it.
- 5-Frequently dunk the blade into water to cool it off to preserve the temper.
- 6-Grind the other side of the blade the same amount as the previous side

Portable Grinder Method

- 1-Secure the axe or machete in a vise.
- 2-Hold the grinder securely in both hands.
- 3-Match the angle of the grinder to the angle of the blade.
- 4- Use light pressure and grind so that the wheel moves away from the blade, not towards it.
- 5-Work from one end of the blade to the other.
- 6-Turn the blade over and repeat steps 1 to 5.

Reference Material

	Hurt & Proffitt, Inc. Safety & Health Manual	Policy Section	15
		Page	3 of 3
	Brush Axe & Machete Sharpening Policy	Effective Date	01/01/2023

Brush Axe Sharpening video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lb3_p1W1Bb8

Program Evaluation

It is inherent that problems may occasionally arise in this Brush Axe and Machete Sharpening Policy. The Safety Committee will thoroughly evaluate and, as necessary, promptly take action to correct any deficiencies in the policy so that we can eliminate problems effectively. The policy will be reviewed by the Safety Committee at least every 2 years.

I have read and understand this Brush Axe & Machete Sharpening Policy and agree to follow it.

Name

Signature

Date