

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS FOR DHS USERS

Outdoor Power Equipment Institute Recommendations















WARNING TO PURCHASERS OF INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE EQUIPPED MACHINERY OR DEVICES:

The equipment which you have purchases does not have a spark arrester muffler. If this equipment is to be used on any forest and brush covered land or grass covered unimproved land, the law may require that a spark arrester muffler be installed and be in effective working order. The spark arrester must be attached to the exhaust system and comply with local authorities by-laws.



USE COMMON SENSE AND PLENTY OF IT

- 1)  **DO NOT** allow any person to operate the hydraulic post hole digger without first reading and understanding the safety precautions and operating instructions. **KNOW THE CONTROLS AND HOW TO STOP THE HYDRAULIC POST HOLE DIGGER QUICKLY IN AN EMERGENCY. RELEASE CONTROL LEVER TO STOP AUGER.**
- 2) **NEVER** allow children or untrained adults to operate the hydraulic post hole digger.
- 3) **ALWAYS** wear protective clothing when operating the hydraulic post hole digger. This includes, but is not limited to: safety glasses, hard hat, loose fitting gloves, steel capped boots and hearing protection. **NEVER** wear loose fitting clothing or jewellery when operating the hydraulic post hole digger. Keep all clothing away from moving parts. Items could become caught in the machine, resulting in injury.   
- 4) **ALWAYS** use hydraulic post hole digger in a well lit area.
- 5) **ALWAYS** make certain the hydraulic couplings are properly connected prior to starting the engine.
- 6)  **NEVER** operate hydraulic post hole digger on a slope that exceeds 15°. Digging holes on an incline is dangerous and not recommended.
- 7)   Police the area before digging. Remove any foreign objects in the digging area eg bricks, rocks, wire and sticks. Locate and mark any sprinkler heads, water pipes, gas lines, electrical and telephone cables or any other hazard either below or above ground.
- 8)  **DO NOT** allow other persons near the hydraulic post hole digger. It is up to the operator to keep bystanders and animals a minimum of 6 metres (18ft) away from the machine while in operation.
- 9) **NEVER** operate the hydraulic post hole digger when fatigued. **ALWAYS BE ALERT!** If you get tired while operating the hydraulic post hole digger, take a break. If you have any type of physical or mental condition that may be aggravated by strenuous work, check with your physician before you operate this equipment. **NEVER** operate the hydraulic post hole digger under the influence of medication, alcohol or drugs.
- 10)  **ALWAYS KEEP YOUR HANDS, FEET AND BODY AWAY FROM THE AUGER WHILE THE MACHINE IS IN USE.**
- 11) **DO NOT** leave the machine unattended while the engine is running.
- 12) **DO NOT** overspeed the engine or alter the governor settings. Excessive speed is dangerous and will shorten engine life.
- 13)  **WARNING:** Keep away from exhaust muffler during or soon after operation.
- 14)  **NEVER** operate the hydraulic post hole digger in an enclosed area. Engine exhaust contains carbon monoxide, an odourless and tasteless poison.
- 15)  **WARNING:** Hydraulic oil is under extreme pressure and can get under skin and burn or poison. Do not operate unit with leaking or faulty hose connections or worn, cut hydraulic lines.
- 16)  **STOP** the engine and disconnect the spark plug lead(s) and allow engine to cool before inspecting or performing maintenance on the hydraulic post hole digger.
- 17) **REFUELLING**
 - * Shut off engine. **DO NOT REFUEL AN ENGINE WHILE OPERATING!**
 - * Allow engine to cool. Minimum 5 minutes.
 - * **USE UNLEADED FUEL ONLY. Use clean, fresh unleaded fuel.**
 - * **Do not mix oil with unleaded fuel.**
 - * Do not over-fill fuel tank. Allow space for fuel expansion.
 - * Do not smoke near equipment.
 - * Allow no naked flame or hot material in refuelling area.
 - * Use only approved fuel containers and funnels. Remember, fuel is a potential hazard.
 - * Refer to engine owners manual for full details.