

TOOLBOX TALKS

SAFE PRACTICES—WATER PRESSURE

Toolbox Talks are designed to promote safety discussions and best practices on the jobsite. To see more Toolbox Talks, please visit cat.com/toolboxtalks.

Pressurized water can cause potential safety hazards. To help avoid injury, take the following steps:

WEAR PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- Protective face shield
- Rubber-soled shoes with insulation
- Protective clothing

USE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- Make sure the maximum air pressure for cleaning purposes is below 205 kPa (30 psi)
- Never point a pressure washer at yourself or others
- Never attempt to push or move objects with spray from the washer
- Never use a gasoline powered washer in an enclosed space
- If using an electrical unit, keep the pressure washer's power cord connection out of standing water; use only heavy duty extension cords with components rated for use in wet locations; and keep both the power cord and extension cord connections as far away from the item being washed as possible, and away from water runoff
- Electrical pressure washers should have ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) protection either on the unit or at the outlet
- Have a qualified electrician check the pressure washer for electrical problems after it has tripped a circuit breaker
- Always squeeze the gun trigger after use to relieve the pressure in the gun, hose and pump
- Use extreme caution when spraying near power lines, service feeds and electrical meters
- Keep the nozzle spray away from electrical wiring and windows
- Do not secure the spray gun in the open position

Discussion Date:

Employee Participants:

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There are a lot of moving parts on the jobsite. To find a safety topic relevant to your operation, please visit cat.com/toolboxtalks.