

Southern WV Safety Alert



Upon completion of cutting a tree, a tree cutter was struck in the back sending him down an embankment. He rolled down the embankment and was impaled on a one-inch diameter dead limb, which entered the lower right portion of his back. The victim was transferred to the hospital where the tree limb was removed. He remained under observation overnight and released the next day. The victim worked for a contract tree clearing operation which was working approximately 400 feet in advance of mining.



Preventive Practices:

- ✓ Prior to cutting a tree, conduct a visual examination for possible hazards and clear away any potential obstacles.
- ✓ Conduct an evaluation of each step in the work process for potential hazards before starting work.
- ✓ Cut or remove any low hanging branches or vines which may become a hazard during the cutting process.
- ✓ Select the best position from which to cut the tree and determine an escape route to use in case of an emergency.

