













Root & Branch	Risk Assessment In accordance the Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1999	Ref: RA02 Date: 18 Jul 17
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	Task: <i>Flame Weed Control</i>	Location: <i>Root & Branch</i>	
	Name of Risk Assessor: S Coombes	Name of Reviewer: Mark Wild	
	Job Title: HSE Volunteer	Job Title: Trustee	
	Signature: S Coombes	Signature: 	
	Persons Potentially at Risk		
	Operator Y	Other service users Y	Staff / Volunteers Y
Public /Other Contractors Y			

Operative PPE requirements for this operation										
										
Safety Boots	Coveralls	Gloves	Eye Protection	Face Protection		Hearing Protection	Hi Viz Vest/ Clothing	Dust Mask	Wellington Boots	Hard Hats
Y	N	N	Y	N		N	Y	N	N	N
Specific PPE comments or requirements Leather boots (not fabric), and non-flammable trousers (eg cotton or leather). Do not wear loose clothing.										

Estimated Level of Risk (Based on Maximum Risk Identified)		
Low (1-4)	Medium (5-12)	High (13-25)
Yes	Yes, until properly trained	

Emergency Details			
Nearest A & E:	<i>Great Western Hospital Swindon</i>	Telephone No:	01793 604020
First Aid:	<i>First Aiders listed on board in lobby</i>	<i>First Aid Kit in Kitchen</i>	<i>Additional Kits in Forge and Wood Shop</i>

Likelihood - L	Rating Given	Severity of Outcome - S	Rating Given
Highly Unlikely	1	First Aid injury or minor property damage	1
Unlikely	2	Minor injury or property damage	2
Medium	3	Potential lost time injury or short term ill health	3
Likely, may occur regularly	4	Major illness or injury	4
Highly Likely, certain or almost certain to occur	5	Fatal or disabling injury or serious ill health	5

Apply a rating to both **likelihood** and **severity** and then multiply together to give actual risk rating of a particular hazard

Hazard	Risk	L	S	R	Control Measures	L	S	R	Further Action Required
Defective Equipment	Defective equipment presents a risk of injury	2	4	8	<p>Before use, carry out and visual inspection of the kit. Pay specific attention to any defects in the hoses, and controls. If thought to be defective at any time, cease use of the kit, and attach a defect tag to isolate from use. Report any defects to your Supervisor</p> <p>Any repair or change to regulator, hoses or torch to be inspected by a second nominated person.</p> <p>Propane regulator adjustable 0.5 to 4 bar, and hose to EN559 with female left hand threads must be used</p>	1	4	3	
Improper Use	Equipment used incorrectly can cause serious injury to operators and others	4	4	16	<p>Only trained persons to use equipment, if you are unsure about this seek advice from Garden supervisor or H&S Officer</p> <p>Do not permit untrained persons to use equipment.</p> <p>Use equipment in full accordance with manufacturers recommendations as contained in the operating instructions</p>	1	4	4	Until operator can demonstrate competence, close supervision is required
Gas Cylinder use and storage	Fire	2	5	10	<p>Cylinders stored in stable position with master control valve turned fully off. Use only in well ventilated areas (in practice only outside).</p> <p>Master control valve turned fully off when unattended e.g. for breaks.</p> <p>A dry compound fire extinguisher should always be at hand when using this kit.</p>	1	5	5	
Refuelling – changing cylinder	Fire, manual handling injuries	2	4	8	<p>Cylinder changes to be made only by nominated persons.</p> <p>Use a well-fitting spanner – remember the regulator has a left hand thread.</p> <p>After connecting the regulator to the cylinder check for leaks. Propane has distinctive smell and leaks can usually be detected immediately.</p>	1	4	4	

Hazard	Risk	L	S	R	Control Measures	L	S	R	Further Action Required
Manual Handling	Risk of injury from lifting gas cylinder	2	3	6	Disconnected cylinders to be rolled on their bases to move them, or placed on a sack truck or similar and secured with a strap.	1	3	3	
Slopes and uneven surfaces	Slips and trips when holding lighted torch could lead to burns or fires.	2	4	8	Walk around work area before commencing activity to check for uneven and sloping areas. Plan work accordingly.	1	3	3	
Injuries to others/ service users, staff, volunteers, public	Others may not understand or recognise the risk of using equipment	2	4	8	Carry out work when areas are not busy. Never leave equipment lit when unattended, and turn off the gas at the cylinder. If approached or confronted with people or animals, switch off immediately. If areas get too busy then cease work and then return at a quieter time	1	4	4	
Mis-directed torch or combustible material	Danger of setting fire to vegetation, equipment and buildings	2	5	10	Do not point the torch at self or others. Do not point torch at the hoses nor the cylinder. Walk around area before commencing work. Do not work near dry or accumulated vegetation. Before working in dry conditions damp down area next to weeds with sprinkler on hose. Do not point flame at any materials that might catch fire. If in any doubt check with garden supervisor or health and safety office before commencing or continuing work. Ensure fire extinguisher and water are near to hand. Do not use in the green house or near the green house to avoid damage to the plastic or glass. Do not use on weeds in the vicinity of sheds or buildings.	1	5	5	
Hot components of torch and flame	Risk of burns	2	3	6	Light the torch using a spark lighter (piezo electric or flint striker) not matches nor cigarette lighter. Do not touch torch when flame is lit. Do not touch the working end or the torch until you are sure it has cooled down (do not leave unattended until it is cool).	1	3	3	If you need to check if torch is cool, wave the back of your hand close to the hot parts. Do not touch with finger tips. If in doubt – wait.