



KCA TOOL BOX TALK: Pressure Washer Hazards

A pressure washer is an excellent tool for housekeeping, site prep, cleaning construction equipment, etc. But there are many different types of injuries that can occur while using a pressure washer. Hazards from the high pressure waterjet include flying debris, burns, slipping falls, strains/sprains, hose connection failures, and lacerations or wounds.

Signatures

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Hazards and Safeguards to Remember:

- Wear the proper PPE such as rain suit, safety glasses and face shield, gloves, and slip resistant safety toe boots
- Never clean yourself or your boots with a pressure washer
- Always plug electric powered pressure washers into a properly grounded GFCI outlet
- Never use gas powered pressure washers indoors or in enclosed spaces
- Use extra caution when walking as slip, trip, and falls are a common on wet surfaces
- Remove any workers from the area to prevent potential contact with the waterjet
- Remember to engage the safety latches when not spraying to prevent water spraying accidentally
- Always release any pressure by squeezing the trigger before disconnecting the hoses
- Use caution when moving the pressure washer after extended use since the motor and engine can get very hot and will cause burns
- Beware of environmental regulations which prevent contractors from dumping pollutants, including pressure washing runoff, in local watersheds

For more information visit OSHA REGULATIONS: 1926.302(b)