With a land management plan in hand, it is time to fire up the chainsaws. We recently received a timely email from Carolyn Kuebler from MyLandPlan.org about the importance of safety. According to the CDC, approximately 36,000 people are sent to the hospital each year due to injuries while using a chainsaw.

Then she gives us three “make sures”:

1) Make sure that your chainsaw is maintained according to your manufactory’s instructions, properly sharpened and oiled.

2) Make sure your chainsaw matches the job.

3) Make sure you have the right safety gear:
   - Hard hat
   - Safety glasses
   - Hearing protection
   - Heavy work gloves
   - Chainsaw chaps
   - Boots that cover your ankle

And get properly trained! Fortunately, we live in a state that offers that training. The New Mexico Forest Industry Association (NMFIA) [http://www.nmfia.org](http://www.nmfia.org) administers the Forest Worker Safety Certification classes in New Mexico. The three day safety class is open to land owners. It thoroughly covers chainsaw safety and situational awareness. And it includes CPR and First Aid training. The cost is $185 per person. Contact Jose J. Varela Lopez at nmfia1@gmail.com or by calling (505) 660-5828.
I can personally attest that this class is well worth the investment because I took the course when it was first offered. Moreover, I have paid to have employees take the course. A great investment! In addition to learning about safety, we learned how to cut more efficiently. And we met folks interested in possibly working on our projects. We also informally learned about the availability of funding and cost share programs in which others were participating.

There are also a number of websites that reiterate much of what is learned in the classroom. These include:


(1) 2016 SPRING TREE FARM FIELD DAY

Over 60% of Vermejo Park is comprised of classic southwestern ponderosa pine forest, thus making its restoration back to a healthy, sustainable landscape is one of their most important priorities. To that end, the ranch is currently thinning the abnormally thick stands by cutting small diameter trees to make posts and poles as well as some sawlog trees of poor health and quality. Western Wood Products produces doweled wood products, which are uniform in shape and diameter for a broad range of uses.

We will be touring portions of Vermejo Park Ranch [http://vermejoparkranch.com](http://vermejoparkranch.com) (30 miles west of Raton, NM) and touring the Western Wood Products Mill [http://www.westernwoodproducts.net](http://www.westernwoodproducts.net) (Raton, NM).
Take some to time to join us in northeast New Mexico for the 2016 Spring Tree Farm Field Day!

**May 13th, 2016**

**8:30 am to 3:00 pm**

**Raton, NM**

**LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED**

*If you plan on attending, please RSVP by April 29, 2016*

Contact Arnie Friedt, Inspector, NM Tree Farm Committee  
arnie.friedt@state.nm.us or call (575) 376-2204

We will meet at the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish Field Office, 215 York Canyon Road, Raton, NM 87740 (see maps below) at 8:30 am and leave at 9:00 am to Vermejo Park Ranch. Please arrive on time, it will be very difficult for you to locate our caravan after we drive through the locked gate into Vermejo Park Ranch. We will car pool as much as possible in order to reduce the number of vehicles. Four wheel drive vehicles with a high profile is recommended. However, a two wheel drive vehicle with a high profile will work. If you’re not driving a four wheel drive vehicle with a high profile or a two wheel drive vehicle with a high profile vehicle, we will adjust seating arrangements as the situation dictates. Please have your vehicle fueled up prior to meeting at NM Dept. of Game and Fish Field Office.

**Friday May 13th, 2015**

8:30-9:00 AM  Meet at NM Dept. of Game & Fish Field Office (member sign in).

9:00-9:45 AM  Travel to Vermejo Park Ranch.

9:45-11:59 AM  Welcome, introductions, presentations and Q & A (we will be traveling to several different field sites).

12:00-1:00 PM  Outdoor lunch provided by NM Tree Farm Committee (Port-a-Potty will be available).

1:00-1:45 PM  Travel to Western Wood Products Mill (Raton, NM).

1:45-2:55 PM  Tour Western Wood Products Mill.

2:55-3:00 PM  Return to NM Dept. of Game & Fish Field Office.
Directions to NM Department of Game and Fish Field Office, Raton, NM: Travel north to Raton, NM via Interstate 25. Take Exit 450 off of Interstate 25. Turn left onto York Canyon Rd/Highway 555 after driving under the interstate overpass. The field office is located on the left hand side traveling west on York Canyon Rd/Highway 555. Please park in the field east of the office.

Personal gear to bring with you on this tour (recommended but not required):
- Hat/cap
- Sun glasses
- Long sleeve shirt
- Pants instead of shorts
- Light jacket
- High top boots
- Water bottle
- Sun Screen


2) BUY, SELL OR TRADE
Are you looking for forestry related equipment to buy (i.e. chipper, splitter, chainsaw, etc.)? Or, do you own forestry related equipment you would like to sell or trade? We would like to help you make the connection with other New Mexico Tree Farmers. Provide us with a description of the equipment, price, photo and contact information and we will post it in the New Mexico Tree Farm Bulletin. If you would like us to help you make the connection please provide information to Arnie Friedt at arnie.friedt@state.nm.us

3) COMMUNITY CORNER
If your community is having a forestry related public event let us know the details and we would be delighted to promote your event in the New Mexico Tree Farm Bulletin. Give us the event details, Who, What, Where and When with contact information and we will include in our monthly bulletin. If you would like us to help you promote your event, please provide information to Arnie Friedt at arnie.friedt@state.nm.us

4) NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS
The New Mexico Tree Farm Program is in the process of switching website addresses. Our current website is at http://www.nmfamilyforests.org/ and will be discontinued at the close of this year (2016). Our new website is at https://www.treefarmsystem.org/new-mexico and is already active. Current feature include: contact information, resources, newsletters, bulletins and our calendar of events. Take a few minutes and check out our new website (provided to us by the American Tree Farm System).

5) HELP! Reduce costs while conserving resources. And get your Tree Farm Bulletin hot off the internet. E-mail instead of snail mail.
Would you prefer to receive your Tree Farm Bulletin by e-mail instead of snail mail? If so, contact Doug Boykin at doug.boykin@state.nm.us and provide him with your contact information. By receiving your Tree Farm Bulletin by e-mail our operating costs are reduced. Thank you for considering this option.