

Chainsaw Training

In response to requests from members we have arranged for a number of chainsaw training courses to be run in Spring and early Summer. The training will be provided in the Navan area by a City and Guilds trainer. Each course can accommodate up to six participants.

Members can choose between two levels of training which are described below. The first course in Chainsaw Maintenance and Cross Cutting will be delivered over two Saturdays. Those members who complete this course and then wish to progress to the next level can subsequently undertake the Award in Felling and Processing Trees which requires three further consecutive days of training.

The cost of training and registration with NPTC for two days is €330. The additional cost to complete the further three days is €470. Members can decide whether to progress to the second level of training after having completed the two days. Members must complete the first two days before progressing to the three day course.

Members who want to attend should signal their interest by sending a text message to John Sherlock on mobile number 086 257 6864. Further details will be provided when we know the level of interest in the courses. Chainsaws will be provided at the training if required, but participants will need their own PPE workwear

1. City and Guilds/NPTC Level 2 Award in Chainsaw Maintenance and Cross Cutting

This qualification is about the maintenance of a chainsaw and cross-cutting trees at ground level. Chainsaws used in aerial and ground work are covered. This work will be carried out in a woodland environment. "Routine" in this standard means corrective and preventative maintenance that is carried out daily or at regular intervals by the operator prior to and during work. Cross-cutting operations will include cross-cutting timber under tension in the form of fallen branches, tops, tree sections, severed uprooted stems, horizontal stems, or any timber in a similar situation. This describes the cross-cutting of trees or timber into either manageable sections or to a given length and diameter specification, either where trees have been felled ("at stump"), or at a conversion point to where trees or timber have been extracted. Cross-cutting operations are often carried out in conjunction with the snedding or de-limbing process. Timber under low and moderate tension is covered, but not timber under the extreme tensions found in e.g. windblown trees. The severing of root-plates is excluded. If you are working with chemicals or machinery you need to be appropriately trained or certificated in line with current legislation. This standard is for those using chainsaws.

2. City and Guilds/NPTC Level 2 Award in Felling and Processing Trees up to 380mm

Independent Assessment

This qualification is about the directional felling of trees using a chainsaw. The felling technique will be appropriate to tree size, weight, condition and species as well as taking into account guidebar size and weather conditions. This covers both coniferous and broadleaved trees, trees that are upright, trees that are weighted towards and that are weighted against a given felling direction. This standard is for those who carry out felling of trees using a chainsaw.