



# INFORMATION SHEET #1

Procedures Handbook 4300

BASIC CHAINSAW SAFETY AWARENESS

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## How Chainsaw Chaps Protect The User

When a chain saw strikes a chainsaw chap, Kevlar™ fibers first resist the cut then are pulled into the chainsaw's drive sprocket, slowing and quickly stopping the chain (approximately five seconds or less). If the chap surface or pad is cut, it cuts the Kevlar™ strands that have been previously damaged, resulting in an increased chance of injury. Chaps are only sewn along the edges to ensure the maximum amount of fabric will pull out to clog the chain and sprocket. A back-coated nylon shell covers the Kevlar™ protective pad inside the chaps. The shell resists water, oil, and abrasions. The protective inner pad consists of five layers of Kevlar™. Kevlar™ is an aramid fiber similar to the Nomex™ material used in firefighter's protective clothing.