**Safety Briefing**

Chainsaw Safety:

* All sawyers will wear protective equipment while operating a chainsaw
  + Chaps, helmet with eye and ear protection, boots, safety vest (for visibility)
  + We will have extra chaps, helmets and lightweight vests you can borrow if you didn’t bring your own
* Everyone on the team should stay at least 10 feet away from a running saw
* Each sawyer needs a spotter while saw is running
  + Spotter should also wear chaps and helmet
  + If spotter needs to get the sawyer’s attention, tap their shoulder with a stick (don’t get close enough to use your hand)
* Be aware that twisted branches under stress may behave differently.
* Check oil levels (motor and bar) before starting; refuel only when saw is cool
* Start saw on ground, not between your legs
* Don’t cut from a ladder or above your shoulders.

Site safety:

* Know the names of your fellow teammates (name tag or tape on front and back of shirt)
* Agree on roles within the team for the day:
  + Team leader is responsible for the whole team
  + Safety officer watches the whole operation for safe practices
    - looks for hazards (holes, wire on the ground, wasp nests, etc)
    - makes sure everyone is hydrating, makes sure everyone is taking rest breaks, is not overheating, etc)
    - Knows where the first aid kit is
    - Calls 911 if necessary--therefore MUST KNOW ADDRESS of worksite
  + Communications officer has phone on to receive incoming messages (be sure project coordinator has your phone number)

Recommendations:

* Work boots with ankle protection, long pants, sunscreen, bug spray
* Cap, hat or helmet to cover/shade head; long-sleeve shirt, sunglasses
* Whistle for the safety officer to signal others of safety issue
* If you have a pre-existing health condition, mention it to your team leader so they can be aware
* Do not expect to enter the house; team should plan for restroom breaks at Blackbird Creek Reserve
* Mark/label any personal tools you bring
* Consider small day pack to carry personal first aid kit, other personal gear

Debris removal:

* Ask homeowner where they would like you to (neatly) pile it on the property. We may have a kabota to assist with this.
* Firewood can be stacked neatly off the road for neighbors to glean.