



Airless Sprayer Safety

West Virginia University
Environmental Health and Safety



Pre-Use Activities:

- Review and understand information provided in the airless sprayer operator's manual, **specifically the safety procedures.**
- Inspect the airless sprayer for damage or disrepair and assure all hoses are intact and connected properly.
- Inspect the electrical cord and plug for defects.
- Notify supervisor and remove the sprayer from service by attaching a red tag that states "OUT OF SERVICE" if an airless sprayer fails the pre-use inspection. Complete the red tag with appropriate information.

Operating Precautions:

- Insert three-pronged airless sprayer plugs into receptacles with similar prong patterns.
- Wear safety glasses/goggles, gloves and appropriate protective clothing when using an airless sprayer.
- Use airless sprayer only in well ventilated areas; airless sprayer fluids can produce hazardous vapors
- Use an appropriate mask or respirator if required by the material being sprayed.
- Never repair a damaged high-pressure hose. Always replace it.
- Never use an airless sprayer without the tip guard in place.
- Use correct-sized sprayer tip for the substance being sprayed.
- Maintain a distance of 10 to 12 inches between the spray tip and surface being sprayed.
- Never point an airless sprayer at any part of the body or another person. Airless sprayers develop high pressure of about 2,000 psi, sprayer fluids could be injected into the skin.
- Keep hands and feet away from the airless sprayer tip.
- Be aware of the work environment; spray away from potential ignition sources such as electrical receptacles or light switches, pilot lights, and hot objects.
- Disconnect an airless sprayer from the power source before performing repairs, maintenance, or cleaning tasks.
- Pull the spray trigger, after turning an airless sprayer off, to release pressure in the hose.

