

STOPPER KNOT POLICY CHANGE

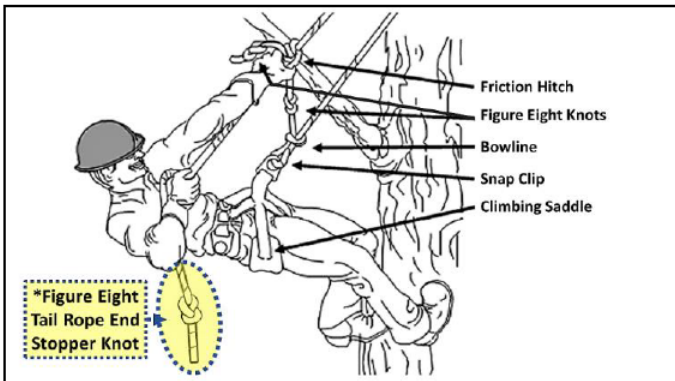
In July, a (Non-Nelson) employee was descending a tree, the employee ran out of climbing rope and fell (16 ft) to the ground landing on his back suffering significant injuries. There have been similar incidents reported (climbers running out of rope) resulting in serious injuries. As a result, the policy regarding stopper knots has been revised.

Effective immediately, a stopper-knot (figure-eight) shall be tied at the end of the climbing-line at all times regardless of the height of the tree.

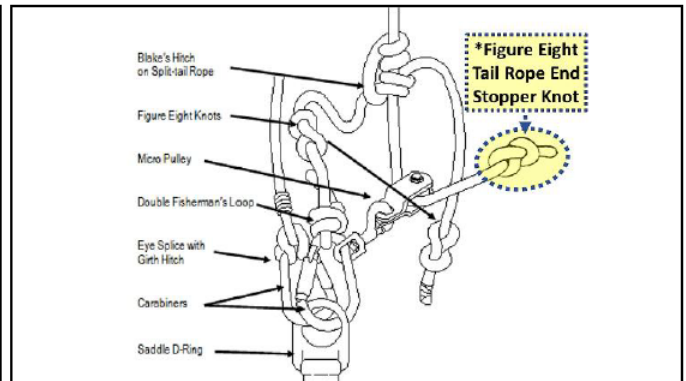
FIGURE-EIGHT KNOT—THE FIGURE-EIGHT HAS FOUR PURPOSES:

1. Tied between the rope snap and friction hitch, it shows a rescuer which rope to cut and provides a stopper knot to prevent the rope slipping through the knot when lowering a victim.
2. Holds the climbing rope apart so that the pruner pole can be inserted to cut the rope between the friction hitch and the figure-eight knot in a rescue attempt.
3. Tied after the friction hitch, it prevents the friction hitch from working off the end of your rope.
4. Tied on the tail end of your rope, it keeps you from mistakenly working your friction hitch off the standing line while descending a tree. *** -- see images below.**

TRADITIONAL



SPLIT TAIL



NOTE: While the images above show the figure-eight knot tied near the end of the climbing-line, you should tie the figure-eight at least 3 feet from the end. This would allow you to grab your climbing-line and advance your friction-hitch up the rope where you could reach a safe position within the tree to reposition your rope.

SAFETY SMART QUESTION

CALL - 1-800-522-4311	ELIGIBLE - EMPLOYEES
LEAVE YOUR ID# AND CORRECT RESPONSE TO THE SAFETY QUESTION TO WIN \$50.	1000024481
	1000145515
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SAFETY QUESTION: THE STOPPER KNOT SHALL BE TIED NO LESS THAN _____ FEET FROM THE END OF THE CLIMBING-LINE.