

# Poulan PRO<sup>®</sup>

ENGLISH

Operator's Manual  
Manual del Operador  
Manuel de L'utilisateur

452 MVB

**IMPORTANT MANUAL - Do not throw away**  
**MANUAL IMPORTANTE - No lo descarte**  
**MANUEL IMPORTANT - À Conserver**

ESPAÑOL



**WARNING:** Read the operator's manual and follow all warnings and safety instructions. Failure to do so can result in serious injury. Always wear eye protection.

**ADVERTENCIA:** Lea el manual del operador y siga todas las advertencias e instrucciones de seguridad. El no hacerlo puede resultar en lesiones graves.

**AVERTISSEMENT:** Lire le manuel de l'utilisateur et bien respecter tous les avertissements et toutes les instructions de sécurité. Tout défaut de le faire pourrait entraîner des blessures graves.

FRANÇAIS

Electrolux Home Products, Augusta, GA 30907  
WCI Outdoor Products, Inc.

530087725 7/28/00

## SAFETY RULES

**⚠ WARNING:** Failure to follow all Safety Rules and Precautions can result in serious injury.

### KNOW YOUR UNIT

- Read your Operator's Manual carefully until you completely understand and can follow all warnings and safety instructions before operating the unit.
- Restrict your unit to users who understand and will follow all warnings and safety instructions in this manual.

### PLAN AHEAD

- Always wear eye protection when operating, servicing, or performing maintenance on your unit. Wearing eye protection will help to prevent rocks or debris from being blown or ricocheting into eyes and face which can result in blindness and/or serious injury. Eye protection should meet the requirements of ANSI Z87.1.
- Always wear foot protection. Do not go barefoot or wear sandals.
- Always wear respirator or face mask when working with unit in dusty environments.
- Secure hair above shoulder length. Secure or remove jewelry, loose clothing, or clothing with loosely hanging straps, ties, tassels, etc. They can be caught in moving parts.
- Do not operate the unit when you are tired, ill, upset, or if you are under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or medication.
- Keep children, bystanders, and animals away from work area a minimum of 30 feet (10 m) when starting or operating unit. Do not point the blower nozzle in the direction of people or pets.
- Inspect the area before starting the unit. Remove all debris and hard objects such as rocks, glass, wire, etc. that can ricochet, be thrown, or otherwise cause injury or damage during operation.

### HANDLE FUEL WITH CAUTION, IT IS HIGHLY FLAMMABLE

- Eliminate all sources of sparks or flame (including smoking, open flames, or work that can cause sparks) in the areas where fuel is mixed, poured, or stored.
- Mix and pour fuel in an outdoor area; store fuel in a cool, dry, well ventilated place; and use an approved, marked container for all fuel purposes.
- Do not smoke while handling fuel or while operating the unit.
- Make sure the unit is properly assembled and in good operating condition.
- Do not fill fuel tank while engine is running.
- Avoid spilling fuel or oil. Wipe up fuel spills before starting engine.
- Move at least 10 feet (3 meters) away from fuel and fueling site before starting engine.

- Always store gasoline in a container approved for flammable liquids.

### OPERATE YOUR UNIT SAFELY

**⚠ WARNING:** Stop the engine before opening the vacuum inlet door. The engine must be stopped and the impeller blades no longer turning to avoid serious injury from the rotating blades.

- Inspect unit before each use for worn, loose, missing, or damaged parts. Do not use until unit is in proper working order.
- Keep outside surfaces free of oil and fuel.
- Never start or run engine inside a closed room or building. Breathing exhaust fumes can kill.
- To avoid static electricity shock, do not wear rubber gloves or any other insulated gloves while operating the unit.
- Do not set unit on any surface except a clean, hard area while engine is running. Debris such as gravel, sand, dust, grass, etc. could be picked up by the air intake and thrown out through discharge opening, damaging unit, property, or causing serious injury to bystanders or operator.
- Avoid dangerous environments. Do not use in unventilated areas or where explosive vapors or carbon monoxide build up could be present.
- Do not overreach or use from unstable surfaces such as ladders, trees, steep slopes, rooftops, etc. Keep firm footing and balance at all times.
- Never place objects inside the blower tubes; always direct the blowing debris away from people, animals, glass, and solid objects such as trees, automobiles, walls, etc. The force of air can cause rocks, dirt, or sticks to be thrown or to ricochet which can hurt people or animals, break glass, or cause other damage.
- Never run unit without the proper equipment attached. When using your unit as a blower, always install blower tubes. When using your unit as a vacuum, always install vacuum tubes and vacuum bag assembly. Make sure vacuum bag assembly is completely zipped.
- Check air intake opening, blower tubes, vacuum tubes, and elbow tube frequently, always with the engine stopped and the spark plug disconnected. Keep vents and discharge tubes free of debris which can accumulate and restrict proper air flow.
- Never place any object in the air intake opening as this could restrict proper air flow and cause damage to the unit.
- Never use for spreading chemicals, fertilizers, or other substances which may contain toxic materials.
- To avoid spreading fire, do not use near leaf or brush fires, fireplaces, barbecue pits, ashtrays, etc.
- Use only for jobs explained in this manual.

## MAINTAIN YOUR UNIT PROPERLY

- Have all maintenance other than the recommended procedures described in the Operator's Manual performed by your Service Dealer.
- Disconnect spark plug before performing maintenance except for carburetor adjustments.
- Use only recommended POULAN PRO replacement parts; use of any other parts may void your warranty and cause damage to your unit.
- Empty the fuel tank before storing the unit. Use up fuel left in carburetor by starting the engine and letting it run until it stops.
- Do not use any accessory or attachment other than those recommended by the manufacturer for use with your unit.
- Do not store the unit or fuel in a closed area where fuel vapors can reach sparks or an open flame from water heaters, electric motors or switches, furnaces, etc.
- Store in a dry area out of reach of children.

**SPECIAL NOTICE:** For users on U.S. Forest Land and in some states, including California(Public Resources Codes 4442 and 4443), Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, New Jersey, Oregon, and Washington: Certain internal combustion engines operated on forest, brush, and/or grass covered land in the above areas are required to be equipped with a spark arrestor, maintained in effective working order, or the engine must be constructed, equipped, and maintained for the prevention of fire. Check with your state or local authorities for regulations pertaining to these requirements. Failure to follow these requirements is a violation of the law. This unit is not factory equipped with a spark arrestor; however, a spark arrestor is available as an optional part. If a spark arrestor is required in your area, contact your Authorized Service Dealer for the correct kit. The spark arrestor, blower tubes, and nozzles must be assembled to the unit to be in full compliance with the regulations.

**SPECIAL NOTICE:** Exposure to vibrations through prolonged use of gasoline powered hand tools could cause blood vessel or nerve damage in the fingers, hands, and joints of people prone to circulation disorders or abnormal swelling. Prolonged use in cold weather has been linked to blood vessel damage in otherwise healthy people. If symptoms occur such as numbness, pain, loss of strength, change in skin color or texture, or loss of feeling in the fingers, hands, or joints, discontinue the use of this tool and seek medical attention. An antivibration system does not guarantee the avoidance of these problems. Users who operate power tools on a continual and regular basis must monitor closely their physical condition and the condition of this tool.

## ASSEMBLY

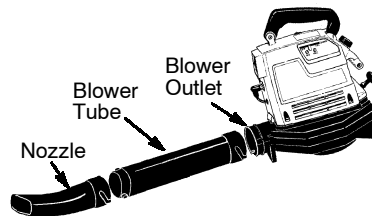
### PREPARATION

**WARNING:** Stop the engine and be sure the impeller blades have stopped turning before opening the vacuum inlet door or attempting to insert or remove the vacuum tubes. The rotating blades can cause serious injury.

**WARNING:** If you receive your unit assembled, check each step to insure your unit is properly assembled. Follow all safety information in the manual and on the unit.

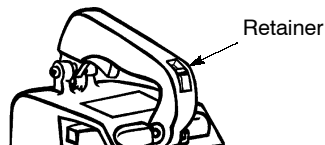
### BLOWER TUBE ASSEMBLY

- Assemble the blower tube and nozzle to the unit (turn clockwise to tighten).



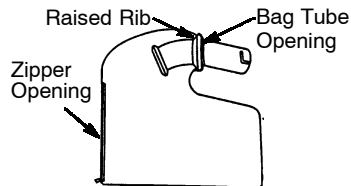
### SHOULDER STRAP ASSEMBLY (for blower use only)

- Pass the shoulder strap over your head and onto your left shoulder.
- Snap the hook onto the retainer on the top handle.



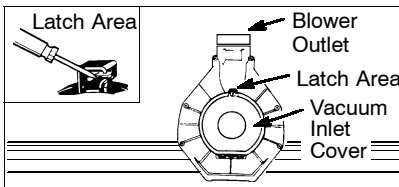
### VACUUM BAG ASSEMBLY

- Open the zipper on the vacuum bag and insert the elbow tube.
- Push the end of the elbow tube with the grooves through the small bag tube opening. Make sure the bag tube opening is flush against large raised rib on the tube.
- Close the zipper on the bag. Make sure the zipper is closed completely and the zipper seam is tucked toward inside of the bag.

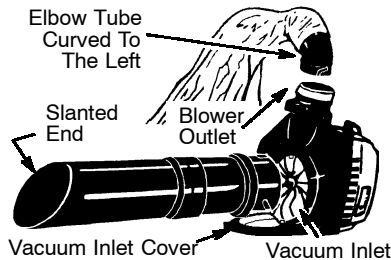


## VACUUM TUBE ASSEMBLY

- Remove the blower tube from the engine.
- Insert a screwdriver into the latch area on the vacuum inlet cover.
- Gently tilt the tip of the screwdriver forward toward blower outlet while pulling up on the vacuum inlet cover with your other hand.
- Hold the vacuum inlet cover open until upper vacuum tube is installed.



- Assemble upper vacuum to unit; turn clockwise to tighten.
- Align slanted end of lower vacuum tube as shown. Push lower vacuum tube into upper vacuum tube.
- Insert the elbow tube into the blower outlet. Make sure elbow tube is curved to the left.
- Turn tube counterclockwise to tighten.



- When converting back to the blower feature, make sure that the latch on the vacuum inlet cover is securely fastened.

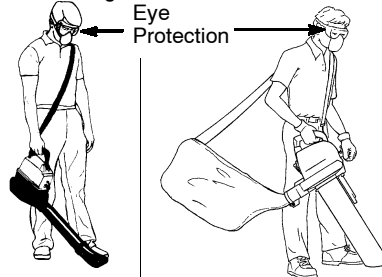
## SHOULDER STRAP ADJUSTMENT (for vacuum bag)

- Hold the unit as shown below.
- Pass the shoulder strap over your head and onto your left shoulder.
- Snap the hook onto the retainer on the top handle.
- Extend your right arm toward the rear of the vacuum bag.
- Adjust shoulder strap until the vacuum bag/shoulder strap seam lies between your thumb and index finger.
- Make sure air flows freely from the elbow tube into bag. If bag is kinked, the unit will not operate properly.



## USING YOUR UNIT

YOU MUST make sure the tubes are secure before using the unit.



## BLOWER OPERATING TIPS

- To reduce the risk of hearing loss associated with sound level(s), hearing protection is required.
- To reduce the risk of injury associated with contacting rotating parts, stop the engine before installing or removing attachments. Do not operate without guards in place.
- Operate power equipment only at reasonable hours—not early in the morning or late at night when people might be disturbed. Comply with times listed in local ordinances. Usual recommendations are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday.
- To reduce noise levels, limit the number of pieces of equipment used at any one time.
- To reduce noise levels, operate power blowers at the lowest possible throttle speed to do the job.
- Use rakes and brooms to loosen debris before blowing.
- In dusty conditions, slightly dampen surfaces or use a mister attachment when water is available.
- Conserve water by using power blowers instead of hoses for many lawn and gar-

## VACUUM

den applications, including areas such as gutters, screens, patios, grills, porches, and gardens.

- Watch out for children, pets, open windows, or freshly washed cars. Blow debris away safely.
- Use the full blower nozzle extension so the air stream can work close to the ground.
- After using blowers and other equipment, CLEAN UP! Dispose of debris in trash receptacles.

## FUELING

This engine is certified to operate on unleaded gasoline. Gasoline must be mixed with a good quality 2-cycle air-cooled engine oil designed to be mixed at a ratio of 40:1. Poulan/Weed Eater brand oil is recommended. (A 40:1 ratio is obtained by mixing 3.2 ounces of oil with 1 gallon of unleaded gasoline). When mixing fuel follow the instructions printed on the container. Always read and follow safety rules under HANDLE FUEL WITH CAUTION in the SAFETY RULES section.

## STARTING

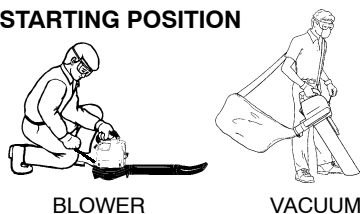
### TO STOP THE ENGINE:

- To stop the engine, move ON/STOP switch to the STOP position.

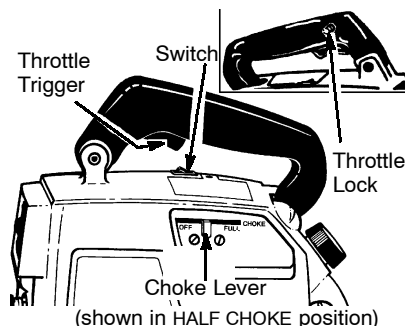
### BEFORE STARTING THE ENGINE:

- Fuel the engine. Move at least 10 feet (3 meters) away from the fueling site.
- Hold the unit in the starting position as shown. Make sure the blower end is directed away from people, animals, glass, and solid objects.

### STARTING POSITION



**WARNING:** When starting engine, hold the unit as illustrated. Do not set unit on any surface except a clean, hard area when starting engine or while engine is running. Debris such as gravel, sand, dust, grass, etc. could be picked up by the air intake and thrown out through the discharge opening, damaging the unit or property, or causing serious injury to bystanders or the operator.



### STARTING A COLD ENGINE (or a warm engine after running out of fuel)

- Move switch to the ON position.
- Activate the throttle lock as follows:
  - squeeze and hold throttle trigger;
  - press and hold throttle lock, then
  - release the throttle trigger
- Move choke lever to FULL CHOKE position.
- Pull starter rope handle sharply until engine attempts to run, but NO MORE THAN 6 PULLS.

**LISTEN:** The engine may sound as if it is trying to start before the 6th pull. This sound may be hard to hear. If so, go to the next step immediately.

- Move choke to HALF CHOKE position.
- Pull starter rope handle sharply until engine runs, but no more than 6 pulls.

**NOTE:** If engine has not started after 6 pulls, repeat all of the above steps.

- Allow engine to run for 10 to 15 seconds, then move choke to OFF CHOKE position.
- Squeeze and release the throttle trigger to release the throttle lock.

**NOTE:** If engine dies with choke at OFF CHOKE position, move the choke to the HALF CHOKE position and pull the starter rope handle 5 more times. If engine does not start and operate properly, refer to CARBURETOR ADJUSTMENTS.

- To stop engine, move the switch to the STOP position.

### STARTING A WARM ENGINE:

- Move switch to the ON position.
- Move choke to HALF CHOKE position.
- Activate the throttle lock.
- Pull starter rope handle sharply until engine runs, but no more than 6 pulls.
- Move choke to OFF CHOKE position. Then, squeeze and release the throttle trigger to release the throttle lock.

**NOTE:** If engine does not run after 5 pulls, it is probably flooded. Wait a few minutes and repeat procedure with choke at OFF CHOKE.

- To stop engine, move switch to STOP position.

## SERVICE

We recommend all service and adjustments not listed in this manual be performed by an Authorized Service Dealer.

### CARBURETOR ADJUSTMENTS

Your carburetor is equipped with limiter caps. Carburetor adjustment is a compli-

cated task. We recommend that you take your unit to an Authorized Service Dealer. Damage will occur if you turn the needles beyond the limiter stops.

### SPARK PLUG

Replace spark plug yearly using a Champion RCJ-8Y spark plug. Spark plug gap is .025".

### IGNITION TIMING

Ignition timing is fixed, nonadjustable.

### TROUBLESHOOTING TABLE

**WARNING:** Always stop unit and disconnect spark plug before performing any of the recommended remedies below other than remedies that require operation of the unit.

TROUBLE	CAUSE	REMEDY
Engine will not start.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engine flooded.</li> <li>• Fuel tank empty.</li> <li>• Spark plug not firing.</li> <li>• Fuel not reaching carburetor.</li> <li>• Compression low.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See "Starting Instructions."</li> <li>• Fill tank with correct fuel mixture.</li> <li>• Install new spark plug.</li> <li>• Check for dirty fuel filter; replace.</li> <li>• Check for kinked or split fuel line; repair or replace.</li> <li>• Contact Authorized Service Dealer.</li> </ul>
Engine will not idle properly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carburetor requires adjustment.</li> <li>• Crankshaft seals worn.</li> <li>• Compression low.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See "Carburetor Adjustments."</li> <li>• Contact Authorized Service Dealer.</li> <li>• Contact Authorized Service Dealer.</li> </ul>
Engine will not accelerate, lacks power, or dies under a load.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air filter dirty.</li> <li>• Spark plug fouled.</li> <li>• Carburetor requires adjustment.</li> <li>• Carbon build up.</li> <li>• Compression low.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean or replace air filter.</li> <li>• Clean or replace spark plug; re-gap.</li> <li>• See "Carburetor Adjustments."</li> <li>• Contact Authorized Service Dealer.</li> <li>• Contact Authorized Service Dealer.</li> </ul>
Engine smokes excessively.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choke partially on.</li> <li>• Fuel mixture incorrect.</li> <li>• Air filter dirty.</li> <li>• Carburetor requires adjustment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjust choke.</li> <li>• Empty fuel tank and refill with correct fuel mixture.</li> <li>• Clean or replace air filter.</li> <li>• See "Carburetor Adjustments."</li> </ul>
Engine runs hot.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fuel mixture incorrect.</li> <li>• Spark plug incorrect.</li> <li>• Carburetor requires adjustment.</li> <li>• Carbon build up.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See "Fueling Your Unit."</li> <li>• Replace with correct spark plug.</li> <li>• See "Carburetor Adjustments."</li> <li>• Contact Authorized Service Dealer.</li> </ul>

## NEED ASSISTANCE?

**Need Assistance?** Call 1-800-554-6723.

**Need a Service Part?** Contact your retailer.

## LIMITED WARRANTY

**ELECTROLUX HOME PRODUCTS**, Division WCI Outdoor Products, Inc., warrants to the original purchaser that each new Weed Eater or Poulan PRO brand gasoline tool or attachment is free from defects in material and workmanship and agrees to repair or replace under this warranty any defective gasoline product or attachment as follows from the original date of purchase.

**2 YEARS** - Parts and Labor, when used for household purposes.

**60 DAYS** - Parts and Labor, when used for commercial, professional, or income producing purposes.

**30 DAYS** - Parts and Labor, if used for rental purposes.

This warranty is not transferable and does not cover damage or liability caused by improper handling, improper maintenance, or the use of accessories and/or attachments not specifically recommended by **ELECTROLUX HOME PRODUCTS** for this tool. Additionally, this warranty does not cover tune-ups, spark plugs, filters, starter ropes, starter springs, cutting line, or rotating head parts that will wear and require replacement with reasonable use during the warranty period. This warranty does not cover predelivery setup or normal adjustments explained in the operator's manual.

THIS WARRANTY GIVES YOU SPECIFIC LEGAL RIGHTS, AND YOU MAY HAVE OTHER RIGHTS WHICH VARY FROM STATE TO STATE.

NO CLAIMS FOR CONSEQUENTIAL OR OTHER DAMAGES WILL BE ALLOWED, AND THERE ARE NO OTHER EXPRESS

WARRANTIES EXCEPT THOSE EXPRESSLY STIPULATED HEREIN.

SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW LIMITATIONS ON HOW LONG AN IMPLIED WARRANTY LASTS OR THE EXCLUSION OR LIMITATIONS OF INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, SO THE ABOVE LIMITATIONS OR EXCLUSION MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU.

**ELECTROLUX HOME PRODUCTS'** policy is to continuously improve its products. Therefore, **ELECTROLUX HOME PRODUCTS** reserves the right to change, modify, or discontinue models, designs, specifications, and accessories of all products at any time without notice or obligation to any purchaser.

## U.S. EPA EMISSION CONTROL WARRANTY STATEMENT

**YOUR WARRANTY RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS:** The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and **POULAN/WEED EATER, DIVISION OF WCI OUTDOOR PRODUCTS** are pleased to explain the emissions control system warranty on your lawn and garden equipment engine. All new utility and lawn and garden equipment engines must be designed, built, and equipped to meet the stringent anti-smog standards. **POULAN/WEED EATER** must warrant the emission control system on your lawn and garden equipment engine for the periods of time listed below provided there has been no abuse, neglect, or improper maintenance of your lawn and garden equipment engine. Your emission control system includes parts such as the carburetor and the ignition system. Where a warrantable condition exists, **POULAN/WEED EATER** will repair your lawn and garden equipment engine at no cost to you. Expenses covered under warranty include diagnosis, parts and labor.

**MANUFACTURER'S WARRANTY COVERAGE:** If any emissions related part on your engine (as listed under Emissions Control Warranty Parts List) is defective or a defect in the materials or workmanship of the engine causes the failure of such an emission related part, the part will be repaired or replaced by **POULAN/WEED EATER**.

**OWNER'S WARRANTY RESPONSIBILITIES:** As the lawn and garden equipment engine owner, you are responsible for the performance of the required maintenance listed in your Owner's Manual. **POULAN/WEED EATER** recommends that you retain all receipts covering maintenance on your lawn and garden equipment engine, but **POULAN/WEED EATER** cannot deny warranty solely for the lack of receipts or for your failure to ensure the performance of all scheduled maintenance. As the lawn and garden equipment engine owner, you should be

aware that **POULAN/WEED EATER** may deny you warranty coverage if your lawn and garden equipment engine or a part of it has failed due to abuse, neglect, improper maintenance, unapproved modifications, or the use of parts not made or approved by the original equipment manufacturer. You are responsible for presenting your lawn and garden equipment engine to a **POULAN/WEED EATER** authorized repair center as soon as a problem exists. Warranty repairs should be completed in a reasonable amount of time, not to exceed 30 days. If you have any questions regarding your warranty rights and responsibilities, you should contact your nearest authorized service center or call **POULAN/WEED EATER** at 1-800-554-6723.

**WARRANTY COMMENCEMENT DATE:** The warranty period begins on the date the lawn and garden equipment engine is purchased.

**LENGTH OF COVERAGE:** This warranty shall be for a period of two years from the initial date of purchase.

**WHAT IS COVERED: REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF PARTS.** Repair or replacement of any warranted part will be performed at no charge to the owner at an approved **POULAN/WEED EATER** servicing center. If you have any questions regarding your warranty rights and responsibilities, you should contact your nearest authorized service center or call **POULAN/WEED EATER** at 1-800-554-6723.

**WARRANTY PERIOD:** Any warranted part which is not scheduled for replacement as required maintenance, or which is scheduled only for regular inspection to the effect of "repair or replace as necessary" shall be warranted for 2 years. Any warranted part which is scheduled for replacement as required maintenance shall be warranted for the period of time up to the first scheduled replacement point for that part.

**DIAGNOSIS:** The owner shall not be charged for diagnostic labor which leads to the determination that a warranted part is defective if the diagnostic work is performed at an approved **POULAN/WEED EATER** servicing center.

**CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES:** **POULAN/WEED EATER** may be liable for damages to other engine components caused by the failure of a warranted part still under warranty.

**WHAT IS NOT COVERED:** All failures caused by abuse, neglect, or improper maintenance are not covered.

**ADD-ON OR MODIFIED PARTS:** The use of add-on or modified parts can be grounds for disallowing a warranty claim. **POULAN/WEED EATER** is not liable to cover failures of warranted parts caused by the use of add-on or modified parts.

**HOW TO FILE A CLAIM:** If you have any questions regarding your warranty rights and responsibilities, you should contact your nearest authorized service center or call **POULAN/WEED EATER** at 1-800-554-6723.

**WHERE TO GET WARRANTY SERVICE:** Warranty services or repairs shall be provided

at all [POULAN/WEED EATER](#) service centers. call: [1-800-554-6723](#) **MAINTENANCE, REPLACEMENT AND REPAIR OF EMISSION RELATED PARTS:** Any [POULAN/WEED EATER](#) approved replacement part used in the performance of any warranty maintenance or repair on emission related parts will be provided without charge to the

owner if the part is under warranty. **EMISSION CONTROL WARRANTY PARTS LIST:** Carburetor, Ignition System: Spark Plug (covered up to maintenance schedule), Ignition Module. **MAINTENANCE STATEMENT:** The owner is responsible for the performance of all required maintenance as defined in the owner's manual.