

**EXHAUST SYSTEM CLEANING / SX-175**

A gradual reduction in power after a period of service on 2-cycle engines is most often caused by exhaust system restriction from a buildup of carbon deposits.

It is necessary to remove these deposits to restore the engine performance after varying periods of service depending upon operating conditions. Deposits form more rapidly with over-rich carburetion, an oil-rich fuel mixture, or low speed operation.

On the SX-175 model, deposits form most usually at the spark arrestor located just ahead of the removable muffler core at the muffler outlet.

The procedure for decarbonization as given on page 30 of the Owner's Manual can be followed to remove and clean parts with carbon solvent. However, the following burnout method can be substituted using an oxy-acetylene gas welding torch, providing a thorough cleaning method for removal of carbon from the spark arrestor portion of the muffler.

1. Secure muffler in a vise
2. Remove muffler core retainer screw and muffler core with a twisting motion using a vise grip or pliers.
3. Using a large tip in the oxy-acetylene torch and a medium hot flame, begin heating the spiral formed spark arrestor located inside the end of the muffler.
4. When the spark arrestor begins to glow, turn off the acetylene and increase the oxygen flow to burn out the carbon deposits.

A low velocity compressed air jet can be directed into the muffler opening alongside the oxygen jet to help the burning process along.

**CAUTION!** A great amount of heat and smoke will develop, therefore the working area should be well ventilated and necessary precautions taken against fire and personal injury from burning.

**NOTE:** The same burnout method can be applied to mufflers of other models where carbon deposits are difficult to remove by mechanical brushing or by using solvents.