Wood lathes are designed to rotate at variable speeds which can exceed 2,500 rpm on some machines. As a result, the wood piece being turned is capable of throwing or spinning off sharp pieces of wood. According to information available from the Consumer Product Safety Commission, common injuries experienced while using a lathe include foreign bodies in the eye, fractured fingers, and lacerations to the hands and fingers. Thus, a wood lathe must be used with caution to avoid injuries.

For additional information about wood lathe safety, go to the Clover Safe note at: http://ucanr.org/cloversafe.

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