

Riding Lawnmower Safety

Safety Precautions for Lawn Care Workers

Lawn care was revolutionized with the invention of the riding mower as an efficient and less strenuous way to maintain a beautiful landscape. In spite of the numerous benefits of using a riding lawnmower, this machine has many dangers. Abide by these precautions while on the job to prevent injury from a riding lawnmower:

General Precautions:

- Read the instruction manual and receive the proper training before operating the machinery.
- Inspect the equipment before use.
 - Assure that the grass catcher, discharge guard and other safety devices are in working order
- Before use, clear the desired mowing area of debris, rocks or other obstacles.
- When the engine is off, adjust the deck cutting height.
- Fill the gas tank in an open space to avoid fume inhalation.
- Never carry passengers on the mower with you.

- Wear tight fitting long pants, eye protection, ear protection, non-slip boots and gloves to protect your body against flying debris.
- Avoid driving in reverse if possible.

During Use Precautions;

- Start the mower while in the driver's seat, not while standing next to the machine.
- Disengage the mower and transmission before starting.
- Engage the blades at the lowest engine setting first and then release the brake slowly.
- Mow in straight lines while trying to steer clear of objects such as trees and shrubs.
- Slow down significantly while turning.

- Never put your hands or feet near the rotating blades under the machine.
- Turn off the mower and disengage the blades when you are finished.
- Clean clippings and other debris from the mower after each use.



Steer Safely on the Slope...

Riding lawnmower accidents occur most regularly on the slope of the lawn. The mower can easily tip over and you can lose control, resulting in potentially dangerous and sometimes fatal injury. To prevent such from occurring, mow up and down slopes; do not attempt to drive across them. Look out for holes, rocks or other debris that you could potentially run over. Do not start, stop or attempt to turn on a slope, and DRIVE SLOWLY.