

Lawn Mowers, Edgers, Chain Saws & More Safety

Walk-Behind Lawn Mowers

- Mow across a hill (not up and down) to avoid falls. Do not mow on a steep hill.
- Keep the mower flat on the ground. Never lift the mower.
- Shut off engine when adjusting mower height.
- If you hit something, stop the mower and turn it off. See if the mower is damaged before starting the machine.

Standard Safety Feature: Operator Presence Control (OPC) ensures that the blade comes to a complete stop within three seconds after the blade control is released.

Help The Environment: Mowers equipped with a mulching feature will finely cut and re-cut grass clippings and return them to the turf. These clippings provide moisture and nutrients to keep your yard greener and healthier, and reduce yard waste.

Riding Mowers

- Riding mowers are one-person machines. Never carry passengers or tow children in carts or trailers while mowing.
- Always start the machine from the operator's seat.
- Mow up and down on slopes over 5 degrees - never across.
- Go slowly on hills and around corners to prevent tipping.
- Never operate a riding mower on slopes over 15 degrees.

- Always look down and behind for people and objects before, and while, backing up.
- Do not allow a child to operate a riding mower.
- Watch for holes, ditches and embankments.

Standard Safety Feature: Operator Presence Control (OPC) automatically stops the engine and powered attachments when the operator leaves the seat.

Help The Environment: Today's outdoor power equipment is powered by cleaner-running, low-emission engines. You can also help the environment by collecting your clippings in a bag attachment and adding to your compost pile.

Leaf Blowers

- Never point the blower nozzle at people or pets.
- Follow local ordinances about when to use a leaf blower. Do not use very early in the morning or very late in the day.
- Use the lowest possible throttle speed.

Chain Saws

2-Cycle And Low Emission 4-Cycle: Make sure the saw chain is not touching anything before starting the engine. Do not operate a chain saw with one hand! You need to use two hands. Shut off the engine before setting the chain saw down.

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Edger / Trimmers

Wheeled And Walk Behind: Keep hands and feet away from rotating parts while engine is running. Stop the engine when crossing gravel or any place where thrown objects might be a hazard. Do not over speed the engine. If you hit an object, stop the engine immediately. Turn it off and check for damage. Repair anything before restarting.

Garden Tillers

Front-Tine and Rear Tine: If you hit an object, stop the tiller immediately. Turn it off and check for damage. Repair anything before starting up. Keep hands and feet away from rotating parts while engine is running. Stop the engine when crossing gravel or any place where thrown objects might be a hazard.

Shredder/Grinders

A Variety Of Models: Do not put face, hands, feet or any part of your body or clothing near chute, hopper or discharge area. For clogs or jams, shut off the machine. Wait until all moving parts completely stop. Blades take time to stop after the engine is off. Disconnect the spark plug wire and check the hopper, chute, internal chamber and discharge area. Only use a wooden stick to clear jammed material. NEVER place hands in chute to unclog leaves or twigs.

Log Splitters

Model Sizes May Vary: Always split wood in the direction of the grain, never across. Keep hands

away from the ram, the wedge and partially split logs.

Snow Throwers

Single And Double Stage:

- Never put your hands inside the auger or chute - use a stick to unclog the snow thrower.
- Never operate without good visibility or light. Be sure of your footing and keep a firm hold on the handles. Walk -never run.
- Never throw snow toward people or cars. Never allow anyone in front of your snow thrower.
- Never put your hand in chute to unclog packed snow or ice. Always read the operator's manual before using a snow thrower or any type of outdoor power equipment.

Some additional tips to keep in mind:

- Always, *always* wear sturdy shoes while mowing.
- Prevent injuries from flying objects, such as stones or toys, by picking up objects from the lawn before mowing begins.
- While the lawn is being mowed, keep others away to ensure their safety.
- Do not allow children to operate lawn mowers.
- A good rule: If you're not comfortable with them driving your automobile, you should not allow them to operate a lawn mower - whether it's a walk-behind or riding mower.



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