



<b>Hazards</b>	cuts or amputation from blades, catching fingers, clothing or jewelry in pinch points or wrap points, burns from hot points, cuts, abrasions, bruises from being struck with projectiles to eyes, face or exposed skin, minor injuries or death from rollover, fire and spills from refueling, prolonged noise exposure.
<b>Tools/Equipment</b>	
<b>Employee Group(s)</b>	Facilities Management – Grounds & Transportation

**Required PPE:**



Safety Shoes



Ear Protection



Eye Protection

**SAFE WORK PRACTICES**

- Do not perform the procedure or operate the equipment until you have been appropriately trained and authorized to do so by your supervisor.
- Inspect required personal protective equipment (PPE) and replace if required.
- Make sure you are familiar with the mower and its safe use.
- Make sure you are not fatigued or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Do not wear loose-fitting clothing, dangling jewelry, etc.

**PROCEDURE**

1. Check that the mower is in good operating order. Make sure blades are sharp, nuts and bolts are tight, safety guards are in place, the motor is running smoothly, the brakes are working, and the operator-present controls are working properly.
2. Check the worksite. Remove debris, look for holes, and check slopes and ground quality.
3. Look to see if anyone else is in or around the work area. Never assume people will stay where you last saw them. Use extreme care when approaching blind corners, trees, or other visual obstacles.
4. Make sure the transmission is out of gear and the mower blades are disengaged before starting engine.
5. Keep hands and feet away from moving parts and discharge area. Keep feet on platform while operating.
6. Don't carry passengers.
7. Disengage the mower blades when crossing pavement, walks or gravel lanes.
8. Check behind you before backing up.
9. Turn off mower whenever you are not sitting in seat.
10. Shut down safely – park on level ground, disengage power to the mower, set the park brake, turn off engine and remove the key.
11. Ensure the transmission is out of gear and disengage the mower blade clutch before starting.
12. Mow across any slopes. Your feet are less likely to slide under the mower and the mower cannot roll back on you.
13. Always push mower forward. Do not pull towards your feet.
14. Keep your hands and feet away from moving parts and hot points.

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*NOTE: All PPE, tools and equipment shall be used in accordance with provincial OH&S legislation, manufacturer's specifications, applicable standards and codes of practice.*



15. If the blade hits a hard object, stop the mower immediately, inspect the blade and make any necessary repairs before continuing.
16. To unclog grass from discharge chute, turn the mower off and use a stick or tool – keep your hands away.
17. Always shut down safely – stop on level ground and disengage power to the mower.
18. To clean the underside of the mower, make sure the motor is shut off, the blade has stopped rotating, and the spark plug wire is disconnected.