

Toolbox Talks are intended to facilitate health and safety discussions. Find more Toolbox Talks on the [Occupational Safety web page](#).

Before Operating

- Read the manufacturer's operating manual and understand the controls prior to use.
- If operating a mower without a cab, wear the proper personal protection
 - Long pants
 - Closed toe shoes
 - Safety glasses
 - Hearing protection is recommended.
 - Protection from the sun is recommended.
- Know the mower's capabilities with turning and operating on slopes.
- Perform a pre-operation visual inspection.
- Do not remove or disable guards or safety devices.
- Check engine oil and fuel levels before each use.



Mowing Safety Tips

- Wear safety belts (if applicable).
- Avoid distractions. Do not talk on your cell phone or text while mowing.
- Riders are not allowed.
- Drive up and down slopes, not across, to prevent mower rollover.
- Watch for holes, bumps, rocks, or other hidden objects. Uneven terrain could overturn the machine.
- Stop the motor immediately after striking an object or feeling abnormal vibrations.
- Never leave a running mower unattended. If you must walk away from the machine, shut off the engine and remove the key.
- Ensure the discharge is away from people, buildings, and vehicles.
- Disengage the blades and place in neutral when someone approaches the mower.
- Shut the machine off before attempting to remove any debris.
- Be aware of stored energy when clearing clogs or jams. Removing an obstruction may cause the machinery to move suddenly.
- Allow the engine to cool for a few minutes before refueling.
- Regularly inspect the mower for damage and replace worn and broken parts.

Discussion Date:

Supervisor:

Participants: