

Safe Operating Procedure

Walk Behind Mower



PERSONAL SAFETY



PRE OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- Wear proper clothing and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE);
- Ensure mower is clean. Dirt, oil and debris contribute to fires;
- Ensure all guards are fitted, secure and functional;
- Ensure cutting blades are sharp, secure and in good condition. Damaged blades can cause a dangerous imbalance;
- Repair or replace any loose, broken, missing or damaged parts;
- Faulty equipment must not be used. Report suspect machinery immediately.

POTENTIAL HAZARDS

- Rapidly rotating cutting blades;
- Noise;
- Manual Handling;
- Ejected material and flying debris.

OPERATIONAL SAFETY PRACTICES (CONTROLS)

- Clear the area to be mowed of debris that may be thrown;
- Be aware of the potential for ejected material and ensure that no person or animal is endangered when operating the mower;
- Avoid mowing in wet conditions due to lack of traction;
- Maintain a proper balance and secure footing when starting the mower;
- Keep clear of moving machine parts;
- Operate at a speed slow enough to keep control over unexpected hazards;
- Mow in a forward direction;
- When mowing on a slope, mow across the slope – this keeps a better distance between the operator and the mower in case of a slip;
- Never leave the machine running unattended;
- Always shut off the mower, remove spark plug lead and allow it to come to a complete standstill before adjusting or clearing grass clogs;
- Allow the mower to cool before refuelling. Use only approved containers to store fuel;
- Turn off fuel supply when mowing has concluded.

HOUSEKEEPING

- Clean away any oil and debris from in and around engine and catcher parts;
- Clean Mower and catcher after use;
 - Keep storage area in a clean and tidy condition.