

Lawn Mower Safety

One of the most easily preventable incidents that RMI sees every year is lawn mower related. Whether you are maintaining a small property or managing large grounds, lawn mowers are essential tools, but they can also be dangerous if used carelessly.

Every year, thousands of injuries occur due to improper mower operation, many of which are preventable. This bulletin is about recognizing those risks and making sure we all follow best practices to stay safe while keeping our landscapes looking sharp.



Pre-Use Inspection Checks

- Inspect the mower for damage or wear.
- Check fuel and oil levels.
 - o Ensure you use the correct type of fuel and oil when filling (review owner's manual)
- Ensure guards and shields are installed and working properly.
 - o Lots of claims are easily preventable if the guards are working properly.
- Before starting to mow, do a thorough walk of area and remove any rocks, sticks, and debris.



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Wear safety glasses.
 - o One of the most important devices to wear to prevent anything in eyes.
- Wear hearing protection.
- Gloves

*By: Nick McInnis
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- Long pants
- Long shirt to prevent sunburn.



Safe Operation of Mower

- Never bypass safety switches.
- Avoid sharp turns and steep slopes.
- Keep hands and feet away from moving parts.
- Mow across slopes with push mowers; up and down with riding mowers.
- Turn off the mower before adjusting or unclogging.
- Refuel only when the engine is cool.



Conclusion

LOTO injuries can be easily prevented through proper procedures. RMI offers a wide variety of training resources as it pertains to LOTO through Vector Training Solutions. RMI also can provide site specific LOTO evaluations – which includes a full program review, LOTO hazards, in depth training, and proper LOTO devices.

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