



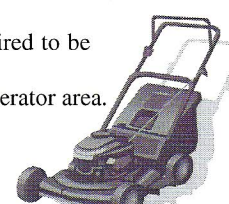
Job Name: _____ Job Site Location: _____

Date: _____ Start Time: _____ Finish Time: _____ Foreman/Supervisor: _____

Topic 199: Lawnmower Requirements

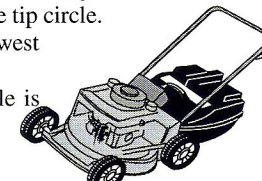
Introduction: Safe mowers contribute to the safety of the operator. Following are guidelines to ensure the lawnmower is safe before operations begin:

- **All power-driven** chains, belts, and gears must be so positioned or otherwise guarded to prevent the operator's accidental contact during normal starting and operation of the mower.
- **Make sure** a shutoff device is provided to stop operation of the motor or engine. The shutoff device must require manual and intentional reactivation to restart the motor or engine. Make sure all positions of the operating controls are clearly identified.
- **Be sure** the operating control(s) is in neutral before starting the engine. The word "Caution" or similar wording is required to be clearly visible at an engine starting control point on self-propelled mowers.
- **The horizontal angle** of the opening(s) in the blade enclosure, intended for the discharge of grass, must not contact the operator area.



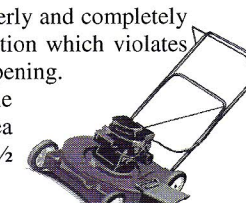
There must be one of the following at all openings in the blade enclosure intended for the discharge of grass:

- A minimum unobstructed horizontal distance of 3 inches from the end of the discharge chute to the blade tip circle.
- A rigid bar fastened across the discharge opening, secured to prevent removal without the use of tools.
- The bottom of the bar is required to be no higher than the bottom edge of the blade enclosure.
- **Make sure** the highest point(s) of the front of the blade enclosure, except discharge openings, is such that any line extending a maximum of 15° downward from the horizontal toward the blade shaft axis (axes) will not intersect the horizontal plane within the blade tip circle.
- **The highest point(s)** on the blade enclosure front, except discharge-openings, must not exceed 1/4 inches above the lowest cutting point of the blade in the lowest blade position.
- **Mowers** with a swingover handle are to be considered as having no front in the blade enclosure. The mower handle is required to be fastened to the mower so as to prevent loss of control by unintentional uncoupling while in operation.
- **Make sure** a positive upstop or latch is provided for the mower handle in the normal operating position(s).
- **The upstop** must not be subject to unintentional disengagement during normal operation of the mower.
- **Make sure** the upstop or latch does not allow the center or the handle grips to come closer than 17 inches horizontally behind the closest path of the mower blade(s) unless manually disengaged. A swing-over handle, which complies with these requirements, will be permitted.
- **Wheel drive** disengaging controls, except deadman controls, are required to move opposite to the direction of the vehicle motion in order to disengage the drive. Deadman controls must automatically interrupt power to a drive when the operator's actuating force is removed, and may operate in any direction to disengage the drive.
- **Make sure** the mower blade is enclosed except on the bottom and the enclosure extends to or below the lowest cutting point of the blade in the lowest blade position.



Guards which must be removed to install a catcher assembly must comply with the following:

- Warning instructions must be affixed to the mower near the opening stating that the mower must not be used without either the catcher assembly or the guard in place.
- The catcher assembly or the guard is required to be shipped and sold as part of the mower.
- **Openings** in the blade enclosure, intended for the discharge of grass, must be limited to a maximum vertical angle of the opening of 30°. Measurements are required to be taken from the lowest blade position. The total effective opening area of the grass discharge opening(s) must not exceed 1,000 square degrees on units having a width of cut less than 27½ inches, or 2,000 square degrees on units having a width of cut 27½ inches or over.
- **Make sure** the word "Caution" or stronger wording is placed on the mower at or near each discharge opening.
- **Blade(s)** must stop rotating from the manufacturer's specified maximum speed within 15 seconds after declutching, or shutting off power.
- **In a multipiece blade**, the means of fastening the cutting members to the body of the blade or disc must be so designed that they will not become worn to a hazardous condition before the cutting members themselves are worn beyond use.
- **Make sure** the maximum tip speed of any blade is 19,000 feet per minute.
- The instruction manual must state that the mower will not be used without either the catcher assembly or the guard in place.
- The catcher assembly, when properly and completely installed, must not create a condition which violates the limits given for the guarded opening.



Conclusion: Always wear the proper personal protective equipment. Utilize these safety guidelines to ensure the lawnmower is safe before operating.

Work Site Review

Work-Site Hazards and Safety Suggestions: _____

Personnel Safety Violations: _____

Employee Signatures:

(My signature attests and verifies my understanding of and agreement to comply with, all company safety policies and regulations, and that I have not suffered, experienced, or sustained any recent job-related injury or illness.)

These guidelines do not supercede local, state, or federal regulations and must not be construed as a substitute for, or legal interpretation of, any OSHA regulations.