

SB015: Riding Lawnmower Safety: Training, Authorization, and Pre-operational Inspections

Safe mowing starts with proper training, equipment checks, and safe work habits. Follow these safety tips to help prevent injuries and keep everyone safe on the job.

Training and Authorization

- Only trained and authorized workers should operate riding lawn mowers.
- Know how to safely operate the mower before use.
- Understand the purpose of all safety devices and controls.
- Follow all safety procedures and ask questions if unsure.
- Refresher training should be provided when needed.



Inspect the Work Area

- Walk the mowing area before starting work.
- Remove rocks, sticks, trash, and other debris.
- Look for holes, ruts, bumps, and uneven ground.
- Watch for hidden hazards in tall grass.
- Watch for students, pedestrians, and other people in the area. Always stay alert and be aware of your surroundings while operating equipment.



Equipment Pre-Start Inspection

- Inspect the mower before each use.
- Check blades, belts, tires, and guards.
- Look for fluid leaks or damaged parts.
- Remove grass and grease buildup.
- **Report** any **issues** to your supervisor **before operating** the equipment. **Do not use** the equipment if it has been identified or deemed unsafe for operation.



Safe mowing starts before using the mower. Proper training, authorization, inspections of the work area, and equipment checks are essential to prevent injuries and damage. Identify hazards and report unsafe conditions before operating a riding lawn mower, as a few minutes of preparation can avert serious accidents.