



SAFETY & HEALTH NEWSLETTER

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Lawn Mower Safety

Safety Tips When Using a Lawn Mower

- **Read and understand the operation manual before using a lawnmower. While many lawnmowers are similar, know where the emergency stop is located and be familiar with any other safety features on it.**
- **Survey your yard or work area for obstructions and small objects you may run over. Small rocks, toys, branches, etc., may become projectiles causing injury or property damage when they are run over with a lawn mower.**
- **Watch out for steep drop-offs or tight corners. Pay attention to where you are stepping to help avoid slips, trips, and falls that can cause injuries.**
- **Clear people and objects, such as vehicles, out of the work area or the line of fire from debris. Removing people and objects from where you will be using a lawnmower will eliminate the chance of debris striking them, causing injury or damage.**
- **Always wear proper PPE. Safety glasses with side shields, long pants, and steel-toe boots are some essential PPE to wear when operating a lawnmower.**

Using a lawn mower is an activity most of us do at home quite often. Lawn mowers and other landscaping equipment, such as weed eaters are responsible for many injuries every year. According to the US Consumer Product Safety Commission, more than 60,000 injuries are treated by hospital emergency rooms each year because of the unsafe operation of power lawn mowers.

Many of these injuries occur at home, where improper use often occurs and personal protective equipment is not worn. Using a lawnmower is not often looked at as a hazardous task, but with the number of injuries each year, safe practices need to be followed.

