

Keep Your Hands Safe:

Follow Lawnmower Safety Tips

Kinetics of Rotary Power Lawnmowers

Kinetic energy (motion) imparted by a standard rotary blade is comparable to the energy generated by dropping a 21-pound weight from a height of 100 feet or is equal to three times the muzzle energy of a .357 Magnum pistol. Blade speed can eject a piece of wire or an object at speeds up to 100 miles per hour.

Common Injury Patterns

Direct contact with rotating or jammed blade
Serious avulsion (tearing/separating) injuries to soft tissue and bones
Gross contamination from contact with grass and soil harboring pathogens
Injuries requiring multiple staged surgeries to cleanse wounds and provide soft tissue coverage (to regenerate healthy tissue/skin)

Other Causes of Injury

Mower being pulled backward
Sloping lawn mowed by power mower up and down slope, instead of across
Sloping lawn mowed by riding mower across slope, instead of up and down
Wearing sandals or open-toed shoes
Operator attempts to unclog blades with hand or foot

Lawnmowers are safe if used properly.

Remember the following:

Read your mower's instruction manual prior to use.
DO NOT REMOVE safety devices or guards on switches.
NEVER insert hands or feet into the mower to remove grass or debris. Even with the motor turned off, the blade remains engaged.
NEVER fill the fuel tank with Petrol whilst the engine is running
ALWAYS use a stick or broom handle to remove any obstruction.
NEVER allow a child to operate the mower at any time or be in the area to be mowed.
NEVER allow passengers, other than the operator, on riding mowers.
Keep your mower in good working order with sharp blades.
DO NOT DRINK ALCOHOL before or while using your lawnmower.
Wear protective boots, goggles, gloves and long trousers.
Do not operate the lawnmower while barefoot.
Be cautious when mowing hills or slopes.

REMEMBER — SAFETY FIRST AT ALL TIMES!