

SAFE WORK PROCEDURE

Gas Powered Lawn Mower (Honda)

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LOCATION OF WORK	WRITTEN BY:	APPROVED BY:	DATE:	LAST REVISION
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HAZARDS PRESENT	PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT (PPE)	ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
 Discharge of objects Slip / trip hazards / falls Fire Muscle strains Carbon monoxide (if started indoors) 	 Safety glasses Protective footwear Long pants Hearing protection High vis. vest 	Lawn mower orientation

Safe Work Procedure

CHECK THE GENERAL CONDITION OF THE LAWN MOWER:

- 1. Look around and underneath the lawn mower for signs of oil or gasoline leaks. Notify your supervisor if leaks are found.
- 2. Look for signs of damage. Frequently inspect the grass bag for tears, holes and excessive wear. Raise the discharge guard and hook the grass bag onto the mower.
- 3. Check each control for proper operation.
- 4. Check the blade(s) for wear.
- 5. Check that the blade bolts are tight
- 6. Check that all nuts, bolts, screws are tightened.
- 7. Ensure that all safety devices are in place. Check the rear shield for cracks or tears. Notify your supervisor if the rear shield is excessively worn.
- 8. Check the air cleaner and oil level
- 9. Check the fuel level and fill if necessary. Follow established procedures; never add fuel until the lawnmower engine has cooled. Starting with a full tank will help to eliminate or reduce operating interruptions for refueling.

CHECK THE MOWING AREA TO BE CUT:

- 1. Clear the area of debris such as rocks, twigs, nails, wire, toys etc. to prevent discharge of objects during mowing. Anything that can be picked up by the blades and thrown is a potential hazard to the operator and others.
- 2. Check the condition of the grass. Adjust the lawn mower cutting height, ground speed and mowing swathe according to the height of the grass. To adjust the cutting height, pull each adjustment lever toward the wheel and move it into another notch.

RIGHT SIDE SHOW FORWARD

GRASS BAG CLEANING:

- 1. To remove the grass bag raise the rear discharge guard, grasp the grass bag handle and remove the grass bag.
- 2. Empty the grass into a garbage bag.
- 3. Replace the grass bag by raising the discharge guard and hooking the grass bag back onto the mower deck.



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STARTING THE ENGINE:

- 1. Don all personal protective equipment.
- 2. Only start the mower in a well ventilated area. Do not start indoors.
- 3. Turn the fuel valve to the ON position
- 4. For PDC and SCD models move the throttle lever to the proper starting position
 - o Cold Engine move the throttle lever to the CHOKE position
 - Warm engine move the throttle lever to the FAST position
- 5. Release the clutch lever or the smart drive control lever (if there is one)
- 6. Pull back on the blade control lever and hold it against the handlebar.
- 7. Pull the starter grip lightly until you feel resistance then pull briskly. Return the starter grip gently. Continue to hold the blade control lever against the handlebar, the engine will stop if you release the lever.
- 8. If the choke was used during starting, move the throttle lever away fro the choke position as soon as the engine warms up enough to run smoothly without using the choke.
- 9. Set the throttle lever at FAST to mow or at SLOW to idle.

STOPPING THE ENGINE:

- 1. For PDS and SDC models move the throttle lever to the SLOW position.
- 2. Release the clutch and the smart drive control lever (if your mower was equipped with one).
- 3. Release the blade control lever
- 4. Turn the fuel valve to the off position if the mower will not continue to be used.

SAFE MOWING PRACTICES:

Slopes:

- 1. Mow across slopes, not up and down.
- 2. Avoid steep slopes and use caution when changing directions.
- 3. Mowing on a slope when the grass is damp or wet can cause slips and falls and result in losing control of the mower.
- 4. Mowing on wet grass can clog the mower deck and collect in clumps on the lawn.

Obstacles:

- 1. Use the side of the mower to cut close to large obstacles, such as fences or walls
- 2. If the blade hits something, or if the mower starts to vibrate, stop the engine immediately, disconnect the spark plug cap and check for damage.
- 3. Striking objects may damage the blade and bend the crankshaft and or break the mower deck or other components.
- 4. Vibration usually indicates serious trouble.
- 5. Mowing over loose stones, gravel and landscaping material is prohibited. This can cause items to be thrown many feet with enough force to cause serious personal injury and or property damage.



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REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

- WS&H Act W210, Section 4, 5, 7, 7.1
- Mb. Regulations 217/2006,
 - o Part 2, Section 2.1 Safe Work Procedures
 - o Part 6, Section 6.1 PPE
 - o Part 8, Musculoskeletal Injuries
 - o Part 12, Section 12.3, Hearing Protection
 - o Part 16, Sections 16.1 16.18, Machine & Tool Safety
 - o 35.0 WHMIS
 - o 36.0 Chemical Biological Substances
- Operators Manual