# EH&S

# **Push Mower Use**

## What Personal Protective Equipment is required?

When operating this equipment wear:

- Hearing protection ear muffs or ear plugs
- Safety glasses
- Face shield if wearing prescription glasses
- Snug fitting and durable clothing, jean or long pants no shorts or cut-offs
- · Heavy duty non-slip gloves
- Safety boots
- Do not wear clothing/items that could get caught in equipment

#### What should I do prior to operating?

- Prior to operating any equipment review the operator's manual to familiarize yourself with the equipment.
- Inspect the equipment as outlined in operator's manual including the following:
  - Check mower for loose fasteners
  - · Inspect grass catcher if used
  - · Check tires
  - · Check drive wheels

#### How do I safely operate the equipment?

- Keep people away from starting and work areas
- Do not put hands or feet near or under mower deck, keep clear of discharge openings.
- Clear work area of objects such as rocks, toys, wire, branches and other items that could be thrown by the mower
- Ensure the area is clear of other people, stop work if they are not.
- Do not operate without safety boots.
- Do not pull mower backwards unless absolutely necessary.
- Do not operate without proper guards.
- Stop blade when crossing gravel drives, sidewalks, or roads
- Shut engine off and wait for parts to stop moving before cleaning or unclogging mower

#### How do I safely operate on a slope?

- Mow across the face, never up and down
- Exercise caution when changing direction
- Watch for holes, ruts or bumps.
- Do not trim near drop-offs, ditches or embankments
- Do not trim excessively steep slopes
- Do not mow on wet grass

### How do I safely add fuel?

When adding fuel observe the following

- If required mix fuel and oil as per operator's manual.
- Always mix fuel outdoors
- · Always shut off the motor
- Let the motor cool before adding fuel
- Do not smoke or place hot objects near fuel
- Open fuel cap slowly to release pressure gently
- · Tighten fuel cap carefully after refueling
- Move the machine away from the area of refueling before trying to restart.
- If fuel is spilled on machine, wipe up the spillage and allow for the remaining fuel to evaporate
- If fuel is spilled on your clothes change your clothing and wash any parts of your body that has come in contact with the fuel
- If fuel is leaking from the machine remove from use until repaired.

#### What are some of the hazards?

- Hearing loss by failing to wear hearing protection properly
- Caught in moving blade causing amputation

#### What if I have other concerns?

If you have any concerns or questions speak to your:

- 1. Supervisor,
- 2. Health and safety representative, or
- 3. Contact EHS