

Document Title: Risk Assessment

Grass Cutting Walk Behind Mower

DATE:
2/4/2024

Activity:			Grass Cutting – Walk behind Mower	Assessment By: Lesley Reeson
Activity	Hazards	Who might be harmed	Risk Level (H, M, L)	Controls
Use of walk behind mowers	Personal Injury	Operatives	H	Training. Correct PPE to be worn, First Aid Kit to be available. Mower never to be left unattended. Be aware of the general public. Stop mowing if members of the public approach the working area.

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01/04/2024

Stickford Parish
Council

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Use of wal k be hin d mo we r	Flyi ng De bri s	Oth er ope rativ es / publ ic	M	<p>Check before using mowing and remove any loose debris.</p> <p>Check area for stones or other material and remove.</p> <p>Mowing to be carried with back toward traffic where and when it is safe to do so Remain vigilant to the public at all times during this operation.</p> <p>Ensure works are clearly signed for the benefit of the public.</p>

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Activity	Hazards	Who might be harmed	Risk Level (H, M, L)	Controls	Residual Risk Level (H, M, L)	Comments
Use of walk behind mower	Striking of hidden objects, stones, manhole covers etc.	Staff, operatives and general public	H	Visual check of area for any stones, raised manhole covers, old posts etc.	L	

Updated
01/04/2024Next review
01/04/2025

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Damaging surface laid electricity cables / communication cables with walk behind mower	Electric Shock, burns, fatality / Disconnection of services	Operatives	L	Visual check of area for surface laid / shallow services prior to carrying out grass cutting works. All exposed cables to be reported to the appropriate stats company immediately.	L	Report all unburied cables immediately to the Supervisor for reporting to the appropriate stats company.
On site maintenance of Walk behind mower	Entrapment, hit by moving parts.	Operatives	H	Ensure motor is fully closed down and the engine given time to cool. Use only trained operatives to change blades, pull cords or plugs. Place machine on firm level surface.	L	Ensure proper tools are used.

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Activity	Hazards	Who might be harmed	Risk Level (H, M, L)	Controls	Residual Risk Level (H, M, L)	Comments
Use of walk behind Mower	Unauthorised use	Staff, operatives and general public	L	Mower never to be left unattended.	L	
Use of walk behind Mower	Striking of hidden objects, stones,	Staff, operatives and general public	H	Visual check of area for any stones, raised manhole covers, old posts etc.	L	

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	manhole covers etc.					
Damaging surface laid electricity cables / communication cables with walk behind mower	Electric Shock, burns, fatality / Disconnection of services	Operatives	L	Visual check of area for surface laid / shallow services prior to carrying out grass cutting works. All exposed cables to be reported to the appropriate stats company immediately.	L	Report all unburied cables immediately to the Supervisor for reporting to the appropriate stats company.
On site maintenance of walk behind Mower	Entrapment, hit by moving parts.	Operatives	H	Ensure motor is fully closed down and the engine given time to cool. Use only trained operatives to change blades, pull cords or plugs. Place machine on firm level surface.	L	Ensure proper tools are used.
Use of walk behind Mower	Unauthorised use	Staff, operatives and general public	L	Mower never to be left unattended.	L	

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Activity	Hazards	Who might be harmed	Risk Level (H, M, L)	Controls	Residual Risk Level (H, M, L)	Comments
Use of walk behind mower	Hand & Arm Vibration	Operatives	H	Mandatory wearing of ear defenders for operatives. Job rotation by trained operatives only. Reduce exposure.	M	Ensure operatives have a copy of the Hand & Arm Vibration Policy

Updated
01/04/2024Next review
01/04/2025

01/04/2024

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Use of walk behind mower	Vibration	Operatives	M	Equipment to be properly maintained. Job rotation by trained operatives only. Reduce exposure. Gloves to be worn.	M	Only use trained operatives.
Fuelling Machine	Fire, Explosion	Staff, operatives, general public & Environment	H	No smoking. Fuel to be in proper container and stored away from sources of ignition. Use funnel or proper nozzle when pouring. Clean up spills immediately using dry spill granules. Ensure Fire Extinguisher is available nearby.	M	Only use trained operatives. No refuelling to take place in the vicinity of forms of ignition. Fuel to be stored in secure place away from direct sunlight and sources of ignition. Operatives to be briefed on safe fuelling of machines.

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