

# Lawn Mower Safety



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During the summer months, the use of lawn mowers and other power gardening equipment is in full swing. It is time to be sure we are using the equipment properly and safely.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates that 400,000 Americans are hospitalized annually due to accidents involving lawn mowers and related tools. Over 25,000 of these injuries involve the use of riding lawnmowers. And, one in every five deaths in lawnmower accidents involves a child, often from falling off of a riding mower and being run over by the machine. In order to make our community safer when mowing our lawns, here are some suggestions:

- Keep the area to be mowed clear of rocks, toys, debris and other tools.
- Do not mow when family members or neighbors are present.
- Always wear sturdy shoes or boots.
- Never fuel a hot mower, or when the mower is running, and only fuel in a well-ventilated area
- Wear appropriate eye and ear protection.
- Only mow when the grass is dry, wet grass creates a slipping hazard
- Do not allow "passengers" on a riding mower, only the operator should be on a riding mower.