Environmental Health and Safety





Yard Equipment

Spring is a great time to get your lawn looking pretty again! This involves using power tools such as lawn mowers, weed eaters, and hedge trimmers. These tools are an effective way to maintain your lawn, but they can also be dangerous when not used properly. The following tips will help you learn how to safely use yard equipment.

Lawn Mower Safety Tips

- Maintenance: Read the safety manual before operating. Make sure your lawn mower is working properly before use. Use a tool (not your hands) to remove debris caught in the mower. Make sure the motor is off before performing any maintenance.
- Caution: Wear gloves, safety glasses, long pants, closed toed shoes when mowing the lawn.
- Use: Lawn mowers should be operated by individuals over the age of 12, and riding lawn mowers should be operated by individuals over the age of 16.
- **Terrain:** Remove rocks and other objects from your lawn before mowing.

Resources

Lawn Mower Safety

Hedge Trimmer Safety

Weed Eater Safety

Weed Eater Safety Tips

- Maintenance: Read the safety manual before operating. Make sure the engine is off and the spark plug wire is disconnected before performing any maintenance. Before refueling, let the engine cool down.
- **Caution:** Wear safety glasses, gloves, long pants, and solid close-toed shoes.
- Use: Start the engine in an open space, then move into cutting position once the engine is running. If someone approaches you, stop cutting once they get within 30-60 feet from you.
- **Terrain:** Remove rocks, sticks, and other objects from the area you will be cutting.



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Don't learn safety by accident