FAQ – Riding Mower Use

What Personal Protective Equipment is required?
When operating this equipment wear:
• Hearing protection ear muffs or ear plugs
• Safety 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 tires and tire pressure
  • Check for fuel or oil leaks
  • Test the safety interlock system verify it passes manufacturer’s tests.

How do I safely operate the equipment?
• Inspect area where equipment is being used remove all obstructions.
• Never carry passengers.
• Do not operate with interlocks disconnected or not operational
• Be aware of terrain hazards such as holes
• Keep legs, arms and body within the operator compartment. Keep hands and feet away from cutting unit
• Do not use on slopes greater than the safe slope limit for the mower
• Operate up and down faces of slopes not across and reduce speed on slopes and in turns.
• Exercise caution near drop-offs, ditches or embankments
• Stop blade when on any surface but 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?
• Wearing loose clothing that could result in getting caught in moving parts
• Hearing loss by failing to wear hearing protection properly
• Suffering eye injury from not using eye protection
• Loss of control resulting in a roll over due to working on slopes.

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