



## Lawn Mower Safety Tips & Injury Prevention

Nearly 75,000 Americans are seriously injured in lawn mower accidents each year. About 10,000 of those injuries involve children. Lawn mower injuries include lacerations, fractures and amputations of fingers, hands, toes, feet and legs and are the leading cause of amputations in adolescents. If you are mowing and you see a child running toward you, turn off the mower immediately. Children can fall and slip into the blade, especially if the grass is wet. Please keep children away from lawn mowers.

### Before You Start to Mow

- Inspect equipment before use and use the right equipment for the task
- Make sure the lawn is free from rocks, sticks, toys and other objects
- Do not operate any lawn mower in wet/slippery conditions
- Dress properly—in addition to appropriate clothing and shoes, wear proper personal protective equipment, like safety glasses and ear plugs
- Practice safe fueling by only filling the gasoline tank when the mower is turned off and the engine is cool

### While You're Mowing

- Only mow when you can see well, during daylight hours
- Never allow passengers to ride and do not allow children to play around lawn mowers
- Stop mowing and turn off the mower if children or pets enter the area
- Make sure the correct attachments and safety features are in place
- Use extra caution near drop-offs, walls, banks and water hazards

### After Mowing

- Allow your lawn mower to cool, after use, before storing
- Store and lock your mower keeping keys out of children's reach
- Store leftover fuel in an approved storage container away from heat sources; gasoline should be stored no more than 30 days without being treated with a fuel stabilizer

If an injury does occur, call 911 right away and apply pressure to the wound to stop bleeding while you await an ambulance.



*Frederick County Fire and Rescue Services encourages you to take these safety precautions to help you and your loved ones remain safe.*

