



**Subject: Operating the Riding Mowers**

Approved: Patrick Bohlen

PROCEDURE:

## Operating Riding Mowers

INTENDED AUDIENCE:

LNR personnel with access to Riding Mowers

PURPOSE:

To train LNR person to operate riding mowers safely and ensure that grassy areas are cut at the department standard (see Turf Management SOP).

### **I. Knowledge**

Before operating the equipment, the employee must be familiar with the Operations Equipment Manual (OEM) for the equipment being used.

### **II. Safety**

- a. At a minimum, follow the safety requirements listed in the OEM for the equipment being used. It is the employee's responsibility to determine if added Personal Protective Equipment is needed and therefore must consult with their Supervisor prior to starting the task.
- b. PPE: Long pants, Eye Protection, Hearing Protection, operator is to be aware that loose clothing, long hair, and jewelry could be caught in/on various parts of the equipment.

### **III. Pre: Operation Steps for Riding Mower**

- a. Walk around equipment visually inspecting for loose or worn parts.

**Note:** Before starting engine, check all fluid levels per OEM.

- b. Check the oil level.

**CAUTION:** Only request oil when the dipstick level shows the "Add Oil" mark or is below the "Add Oil" mark. LNR Maintenance Team will add oil.



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- c. Check the fuel level.

**Note:** If fuel is needed, secure gas key from Traka box, fuel equipment to proper level and return key to Traka box.

- d. Check all tire pressures (12-15 lbs.) as per OEM.

**Note:** Low or under inflated tires are to be filled or repaired by LNR Shop Maintenance Team.

- e. Check all lights and safety features are present and working properly.

**Note:** If unit is not working properly take unit to LNR Maintenance Shop for repairs.

- f. Start unit check volt meter for charging status, and engage blades to ensure proper operation.

**Note:** Dead batteries are to be jumped or replaced by LNR Shop Maintenance Team.

- g. Check and ensure that the mower deck is set at the correct cutting height.

**IV. During Operation Steps for Riding Mower**

**CAUTION:** Be aware of your surroundings. Check for debris, branches, rocks and people. Also check for any wet areas to prevent damage to turf.

- a. Start unit and begin mowing operations.
- b. After the first mowing pass, inspect the previously mowed area to make certain the sod is being mowed adequately.



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**Note:** If mechanical failure is encountered during mowing operation, LNR Maintenance Team will be dispatched to the location to make repairs. If repairs cannot be made on site, equipment will be towed to shop and Supervisor will assign another mower for use. Supervisor will be notified by the shop when unit repairs are complete.

**V. After Operation Steps for Riding Mower**

- a. Using compressed air gun, blow off radiator, screen, engine, rear wheels and on the inside of the tires to remove any dirt or debris from the unit.
- b. Clean air filter.
- c. Check fuel level.

**Note:** Secure gas key from Traka box, fuel equipment to proper level and return key to Traka box.

- d. Walk around equipment visually inspecting for loose or worn parts or any damage that may have occurred during work day and if damage is noticed, notify supervisor.
- e. Wash mower as trained including battery.
- f. Park mower in designated area.
- g. Fill out mower equipment log.