



West Bay Sanitary District Code of Safe Practice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Initial: June 01, 2012

Questions or comments regarding this
Code of Safe Practice should be directed
to the Regulatory Compliance Coordinator.

Mower, Industrial

- Review safe work practices for applicable equipment (including rental equipment) and perform pre-operational checks.
- Review and understand the manufacturer's operator's manual for this equipment.
- Never leave the machine unattended with the engine running.
- Only trained operators are allowed to operate an industrial mower.
- Handle gasoline with care.
- Refuel before starting work.
- Do not smoke while handling fuel.
- Do not refuel a hot engine.
- Avoid spilling fuel or oil. Always wipe unit dry before using.
- Always store gasoline in approved container.
- Always replace the lid on any fuel container.
- Use only "Safety Cans" equipped with anti-flashback nozzles.
- Never operate the mower without proper guards, plates or other safety protective devices in place.
- Do not allow bystanders or animals in work area. Objects may be thrown 300 feet by the blades.
- Disc mower curtain (deflector, safety or discharge) guards cannot prevent all material from escaping the blade enclosure area.
 - Keep curtain guards in place and down, as close to the ground as possible
 - Do not operate mower with cutter bar raised off the ground
 - Do not operate mower with missing or damaged curtain guards.

- When operating a disc mower, an enclosed ROPS cab with seatbelt is required for operator protection from thrown objects. Keep windows closed on the side facing the blade area.
- Be particularly observant for children, they will be attracted by the mower activities.
- Always wear safety glasses.
- Always wear ear protectors.
- Always wear sturdy, rough soled work shoes.
- Use a dust filter mask to avoid breathing dust if large quantities of dust are generated.
- Always examine mower before use to ensure it is in good working condition.
- Do not allow anyone to ride on the tractor or the mower.
- Check the brake action every time before operating the mower. Adjust if necessary.
- Never leave the machine running and unattended.
- When parking the vehicle (permanently or temporarily):
 - Disengage the Power Take Off (PTO) before shutting off engine.
 - Set the parking brake.
 - Allow all moving parts to stop.
 - Lower mower to the ground.
 - Shut off engine.
 - Lock ignition and remove key.
 - Relieve hydraulic system pressure by moving controls several times in all directions.
- Clear the work area of objects that might be thrown. If you hit an object, stop the machine and inspect it. In rough or rocky fields, follow the manufacturer's recommendations, which may include:
 - Installing topping shoes to increase ground clearance.
 - Raise cutter bar to avoid objects.
 - Keep cutter bar level to prevent blade wear and damage.
 - Do not operate with bent, broken, cracked or damaged blades or blade bolts.
- Operate the machine only in a well-ventilated area. The engine exhaust can be deadly in an enclosed space.

- Before working with mower blades, wear gloves or wrap the blades with rages. The blades are sharp and can cut you.
- Don't leave clippings piled against flammable materials such as a wooden fence. Damp clippings are a fire hazard.
- Never operate the unit on wet grass.
- If the mower starts to vibrate, stop operation and check for loose parts or blade.
- Always mow across the face of a slope when possible. Mow down hill on steep slopes to avoid overturning.
- Stop the blade before crossing gravel drives, walks or roads.
- Never check for hydraulic or diesel fuel leaks with the bar hand. Use cardboard or wood. High-pressure fluid can penetrate the skin, causing a serious injury requiring special surgery.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Protection Area	PPE Required
Eye	Safety glasses or goggles meeting the ANSI Z87.1 Standard.
Face	
Hand	Work gloves.
Head	Hardhat.
Foot	Leather steel toe safety shoes or boots.
Body	
Respiratory	
Hearing	Wear earplugs or earmuffs as necessary.