

HOME AND GARDEN

Mower's blades go faster than the winds of a tornado

Have you ever lived through or witnessed the results of a tornado?

The high winds can be extremely frightening and dangerous, reaching speeds of 150-180 mph. The destruction these storms leave behind can be devastating.

Well, did you realize that the tip of your mower's cutting blade can average speeds of 200 mph?

That's faster than a typical tropical storm. That's why mowers should be considered serious cutting tools that should be treated with respect.

And regardless of how long you've been mowing, it's important to consciously think about measures you can take to ensure your safety.

Safety measures and mowing techniques vary depending on the type of mower you have, but there are some things that always remain the same.

Like proper clothing - always wear pants, good shoes with traction soles and tucked-in shirts.

Walk the lawn before mowing and remove any yard debris or toys that could be thrown by that speeding cutter blade. If twigs or other yard debris clog your mower's discharge chute, turn off the mower.

With a walk-behind mower, disconnect the spark plug wire. This will prevent the engine from restarting if you accidentally turn the blade while examining the mowing chamber.

Never place your hands or feet near the blade while examining the mowing chamber; use tools to dislodge any clogs.

Avoid touching the hot engine or exhaust surfaces.

Mow across slopes with a walk-behind mower. That way, if you slip and fall, the mower will be less likely to tumble on top of you.

Mow up and down slopes with a riding mower for greatest stability. Hills too steep to mow safely shouldn't be mowed at all.

Add a decorative groundcover or plant the area in native wildflowers. Steer clear of embankments and drop-offs.

Level with soil any low spots or depressions that could cause you to turn an ankle or make a bumpy ride for a lawn tractor.

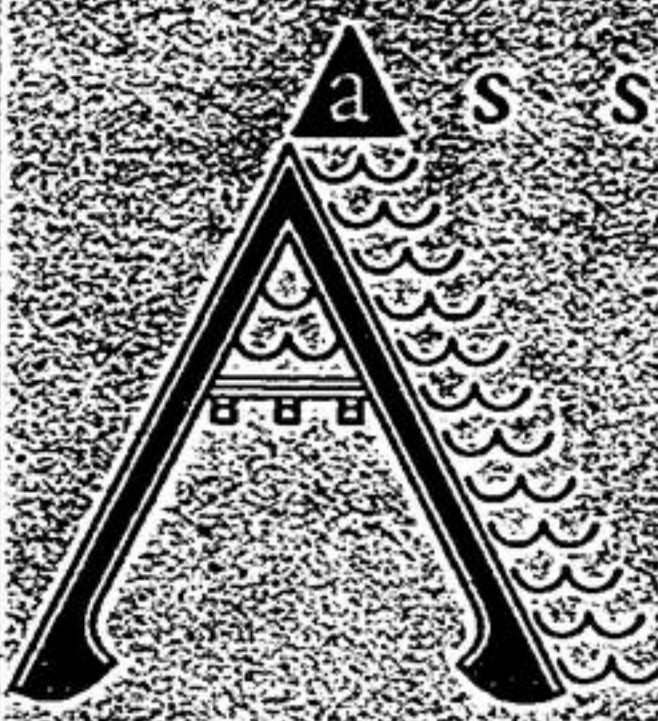
Regardless of the type of terrain you negotiate, be sure that children and pets are far away from the area you're mowing to protect them from flying debris.

Be particularly careful to check behind you when backing up.

Remember: Even if you move in slow motion, your mower's cutting blade is operating at hurricane speed. Take it seriously.

This article was submitted by John Deere.

SCOTT RUSHLOW
ASSOCIATES



Architectural Design
new homes • additions • heritage

905-852-5595

CUSTOM INGROUND POOLS Phone 642-2121


- DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION BY COMPANY OWNER
- OVER 20 YEARS IN YORK/DURHAM
- LINERS SERVICE CHEMICALS

Rosswill Pools

Pool Openings \$225⁰⁰



BLOOMING Deals



Greenhouses Open To The Public

Wide Selection of Flowering Annuals, Flowering Bags, Perennials and Vegetables, Soil and Manure.

Victoria Day Special


Absolutely Gorgeous 10" Hanging Baskets

- Fuschias • Geraniums
- Sunshine Impatiens

BUY DIRECT FROM THE GROWER

BENEDETTO'S GREENHOUSES

12041 Woodbine Ave.
half a mile south of Stouffville Rd.
3 miles north of Major Mackenzie
(905) 887-5060



Grand Opening Weekend

May 16-18

kate's garden

accenting your garden

Exquisite statuary, plaques, finials & garden accent pieces.

High quality gardening tools and accessories by Fiskars.

Beautiful trellises, obelisks & arbours, designed in Canada.

Markham's newest specialty store, catering to the soul of the gardener. We have hundreds of unique, practical products to help you accent your garden and your property.

Decorative pots, containers, planters and urns, featuring the Jestin collection.

Unique garden-related gifts, foods, stationary and interior decor.

Delightful garden prints from the Botanical Collection by Canadian artist Lyn Noble.

Grand Opening Features:

In-store specials, food sampling and garden chat this long weekend at kate's garden. Drop in.

Victoria Weekend Hours:

Sat. (9:30-6pm)

Sun. (12-5pm)

Mon. (12-5pm)

Winner's Plaza

5221 McCowan Road at Highway #7

(905) 475-7674



- Laminated floors from \$2.89 s.f.
- Ceramic Tiles, Hardwood Floors and more
- Largest Showroom in Markham

Colour Your Floors

60 Bullock Dr., Markham
(905) 472-1528