

# Risk assessment – Use of Rotary Mower

All employers must conduct a risk assessment. If you have fewer than five employees you don't have to write anything down.

**Company name: MARDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Date of risk assessment: February 2023**

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What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	Do you need to do anything else to control this risk?	Action by who?
<b>Items thrown up from use of rotary mower</b>	Risk of injury by: Staff Anyone in the vicinity	Staff trained on correct use of rotary mower (new staff supervised until Line Manager is satisfied on level of competence) Staff ensure that all safety measures are in place before use Prior to starting mowing staff remove any stones, branches or debris from area to be mowed Staff are supplied with correct PPE including hard hat and visor, goggles, ear defenders, gloves and safety boots and staff are trained to use correctly Rotary mowers are serviced annually and maintained regularly Any broken or damaged machinery must not be used until repaired, or replaced	PPE to be kept up to date. Any items to be replaced to be reported to the Clerk/Deputy Clerk.	Clerk / Deputy Clerk Caretakers
<b>Lone Working</b>	Working alone present the risk of an employee being unable to summon help if required Staff	All staff carry a charged phone at all times Location of all staff is known by the Clerk/Deputy Clerk Employees issued with a first aid kit		Clerk / Deputy Clerk Caretakers
<b>Entanglement</b>	Hair, clothing, jewellery can become entangled with moving parts of the mower Staff	Staff fully trained in the use of the mower Staff ensure that hair, clothing etc is kept clear of moving parts Long hair tied back Overalls restrict loose clothing Jewellery, other than a wedding ring, is not permitted to be worn		Clerk / Deputy Clerk Caretakers
<b>Slips, trips and falls</b>	Risk of injury Staff	Staff fully trained in correct use of mowers Staff to ensure a secure footing throughout mowing operation Staff fully briefed on hazards present on each site All obstacles, trip hazards are removed before starting work Staff are supplied with the correct PPE Equipment to be cleaned after use and checked for damage, replacement etc When working on steep slopes specific site and weather conditions should be assessed before start. If deemed unsafe, work is postponed Work working on slopes, staff work in straight lines across face of the slope		Clerk/Deputy Clerk Caretakers

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What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	Do you need to do anything else to control this risk?	Action by who?
<b>Hand, Arm Vibration (HAV) Syndrome</b>	Prolonged and repeated use of mower presents risk of HAV syndrome which can cause permanent damage to fingers, hands, wrists and arms Staff	Staff fully trained in the use of the mower Staff wear gloves when operating mowers Staff to take regular, short breaks and to switch off mower throughout work operations Staff instructed to ensure hands are kept warm throughout mowing operations Staff instructed to stop work immediately if tingling, blanching (loss of colour), pain or numbness in hands, fingers or wrists occur and report to Clerk Staff instructed not to use too hard/tight grip when using mower	Staff to report to Clerk/Deputy Clerk of any concerns as soon as possible after experiencing any symptoms.	Clerk /Deputy Clerk Caretaker
<b>Hearing loss</b>	Damage to hearing from prolonged and repeated use of mower Staff	Staff fully trained in the use of the mower Staff issued with ear defenders Staff trained in correct use of PPE	Ensure correct PPE is used. Clerk/Deputy to be informed if low on any equipment.	Caretaker
<b>Moving Parts</b>	Risk of harm from moving parts of the mower Staff	Staff fully trained in the use of the mower Mower subject to regular inspection and maintenance Staff inspect switched-off mower before and after every use. If damaged or worn mower not to be used until repaired Users ensure no parts of their body is near the moving parts of the machine whilst it is in use	Clerk/Deputy Clerk to be informed of any damaged/worn equipment.	Caretaker
<b>Collisions</b>	Collision with pedestrians can cause serious injury Staff Anyone in the vicinity	Staff fully trained in the use of the mower Staff wear Hi-Viz jackets/vest at all times Staff vigilant of who/what is around them and not to mow where there are pedestrians		Caretaker
<b>Risk of explosion / inhalation of fumes</b>	Risk of harm from fire, explosion and inhalation of fumes Staff Anyone in the vicinity	Mowers fueled only in areas away from all sources of ignition Mowers fueled outside, never indoors or in a confined space Mowers fueled using a funnel After filling, filler cap is secured and all spillages and drips wiped clean Mower removed from fueling area before starting Masks to be worn during fueling		Caretaker

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<b>What are the hazards?</b>	<b>Who might be harmed and how?</b>	<b>What are you already doing?</b>	<b>Do you need to do anything else to control this risk?</b>	<b>Action by who?</b>
<b>Unauthorised use</b>	Unauthorised use of the mower could result in serious injury to the operator and anyone in the vicinity Staff Anyone in the vicinity	Mowers must never be left unattended When not in use store in locked compound		Caretaker
<b>Lifting in and out of vehicle / trailer</b>	Manual Handling injuries Staff	Staff fully trained in the use of rotary mower Staff trained/understand correct manual handling techniques Mowing operations postponed during extreme weather conditions		Caretaker