



Hazards	prolonged noise exposure, prolonged vibration to upper body, burns from hot points, catching fingers, clothing or jewelry in pinch points or belts, fire and spills from refueling, cuts, abrasions or bruises from operating around obstacles such as tree trunks
Tools/Equipment	
Employee Group(s)	Facilities Management – Grounds & Transportation

Required PPE:



Safety Shoes



Ear Protection



Eye Protection



Gloves

SAFE WORK PRACTICES

- Do not perform the procedure or operate the equipment until you have been appropriately trained and authorized to do so by your supervisor.
- Inspect required personal protective equipment (PPE) and replace if required.
- Make sure you are familiar with the sod cutter and its safe use.
- Keep feet and hands away from all moving parts.
- Do not wear loose-fitting clothing, dangling jewelry, etc.

PROCEDURE

1. Keep all machine parts in good condition and fasten in place. Fix damages immediately. Replace worn or broken parts. Whenever working on sod cutter, disconnect spark plug wire.
2. Make sure all safety guards and switches are working properly.
3. Check the worksite. Remove debris, look for holes, check slopes and ground quality and ensure there are **no underground electrical wires**.
4. Ensure the transmission is in neutral, the cutter blade is disengaged, engine clutch control lever is in forward position, and blade lever is in transport mode before starting.
5. Once engine is running, set blade lever to desired cutting depth.
6. Apply hand brake to stop rear pulley from turning. Engage transmission to “LO” speed and engage cutter blade control.
7. Adjust throttle speed to the desired operating speed. Maximum rpm is recommended for smooth operation.
8. Release hand brake. Engage engine control clutch lever by pulling handle towards operator.
9. After cutting a short distance, stop machine by disengaging engine control clutch lever. Check thickness of sod and adjust if necessary.

NOTE: All PPE, tools and equipment shall be used in accordance with provincial OH&S legislation, manufacturer's specifications, applicable standards and codes of practice.