



## Landscape Services

# Safety Standard Operating Procedure

(Revised 1/2023)

## Brush Hogging

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This SSOP provides guidance on the safe operation of Utility tractor and brush cutter. As with any equipment or tools, the most basic premise for safe operation is reading and adhering to the manufacturer's instructions and warnings. This SSOP is not a substitute for the owner's manual produced by the manufacturer.

**Schedule:** Seasonal as assigned.

**PPE Requirements:** Pants, closed toe shoes, ear protection, gloves.

**Safety Requirements:** Follow equipment manufacture guidelines. Watch for traffic, 360 view attention while in operation, no distractions such as cell phone to be used during operation, proper use of seat belt.

**Safety Hazards:** Vehicle and pedestrian traffic, Underground and overhead Utilities, lifting, bending, overhead objects, dust, noise, sharp objects, blind spots, equipment malfunction, tip or rollover, pinch points, hot or cold temperatures, and inclement weather.

### Pre Inspection

1. Always conduct a walk-around inspection.
2. Check for leaks and hose damage
3. Check tire pressure and wheels for damage
4. Check all fluids every 8 hours of operation.
5. Grease machine every 8 hours of operation
6. Inspect machine for any visual damage
7. Check the service tag. Make sure the machine has been serviced regularly. (Service reminder is located by the hour meter.
8. Make sure the seat belt works properly. They are required to be worn at all times during operation.
9. Keep windows clean. Know your blind spots and take extra precautions.

### Operation

1. Hazard lights
2. Follow road and traffic laws
3. Go over map locations
4. Look at moisture levels for the area and be aware of low wet spots.
5. Utility markings. Some Utilities have fiberglass stake placards. Water valves, phone boxes.

6. Fence edging- Stay 2' from fence edge.
7. Roadways watch for signage and vehicle traffic.
- 8. DO NO MOW OVER TRASH**
9. Pay attention for drainage pipes or culvert flumes.
10. 15' batwing for mowing slopes and ditches only. The 10' will not handle the angles.

### **Cut height**

1. 3" lowest cutting
2. Front of mower should be 1" higher than back of mower
3. Set heights on pavement in front of shop using a tape measure. Lock in cylinder points for each one.

### **End of day**

1. Blow the mower and tractor off on location of mowing.
2. Clean radiator filters/ screens
3. Wash tractor and mower
4. Top off fuel and DEF.
5. Park in proper locations to not block others.