



Lawn and Garden Safety Checklist

USE THIS CHECKLIST AND MAKE A CAREFUL INSPECTION OF YOUR YARD, GARDEN AND HABITS

YES NO

Tool Hazards

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|-----|-----|----|---|
| ___ | ___ | 1. | Do you have the correct tools for jobs you do? |
| ___ | ___ | 2. | Do you store your tools so they won't fall on someone when not in use? |
| ___ | ___ | 3. | Are all cutting type tools stored out of reach of small children? |
| ___ | ___ | 4. | Do you keep cutting type tools sharpened and in good repair? |
| ___ | ___ | 5. | Have all users of cutting type tools received instruction (read manual or have been shown how to use the tool) before using them? |
| ___ | ___ | 6. | Do you inspect your extension ladder each time before use for cracks, broken or loose rungs or general weakness? |
| ___ | ___ | 7. | Are your ladders long enough and strong enough for your jobs? |
| ___ | ___ | 8. | Are your ladders equipped with non-skid feet or pads? |

Lawn Mower Hazards

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| ___ | ___ | 9. | Does the person who uses the lawn mower always wear heavy shoes? |
| ___ | ___ | 10. | Does the person who mows the lawn always pick up trash, etc., first? |
| ___ | ___ | 11. | Does the lawn mower have safety shields? |
| ___ | ___ | 12. | Is a grass catcher used to help prevent objects being "thrown" by the rotary mower? |
| ___ | ___ | 13. | Do you always turn the lawn mower off (or disengage blade) before crossing gravel drives or walkways? |
| ___ | ___ | 14. | Do you always refill the lawn mower and other gas tanks outdoors? |
| ___ | ___ | 15. | Is extra gasoline stored in a safety gas can? |
| ___ | ___ | 16. | Do you always disconnect the spark plug wire before tipping the lawn mower up to do any servicing under the mower deck? |
| ___ | ___ | 17. | Do you keep good mufflers on all gasoline powered lawn mowers, leaf mulchers or snow throwers? |
| ___ | ___ | 18. | Do you insist that everyone leave the area of lawn you are mowing (out of line sight of lawn mower)? |
| ___ | ___ | 19. | Do you mow across the slope with hand lawn mowers? |
| ___ | ___ | 20. | Do you mow up and down the slope with a riding mower? |
| ___ | ___ | 21. | Do you always look behind you before backing up a riding mower? |
| ___ | ___ | 22. | Do you make it a practice to never pull a hand mower toward yourself? |

Electrical Hazards

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|-----|-----|-----|---|
| ___ | ___ | 23. | When using an electric mower or hedge trimmer, do you keep the extension cord out of the uncut area? |
| ___ | ___ | 24. | Are the electric outlets used for operating electric mowers, trimmers or portable power tools protected with ground fault circuit interrupters? |
| ___ | ___ | 25. | Are the extension cords used for electric mowers and trimmers free from cracks or broken places? |

YES NO

- ___ ___ 26. Are electric trimmers and/or mowers double-insulated (do not need 3-wire extension cord)?
- ___ ___ 27. Are all portable electric hand tools (drills, saws, etc.) double insulated?
- ___ ___ 28. If portable electric hand tools are used outside and are not double insulated, do you use a grounded extension cord and three prong plugs?
- ___ ___ 29. Are incoming electrical wires (to the house) high enough to prevent hitting them with tools or ladders being carried?
- ___ ___ 30. Do all three prong electric plugs still have the round grounding prong?
- ___ ___ 31. Do you wear safety goggles when using all portable power tools?
- ___ ___ 32. Are the incoming electrical wires (to the house) clear of trees, shrubs, other buildings and aerial guy wires?

Chemical Hazards

- ___ ___ 33. Do you only apply agricultural chemicals when it is not windy?
- ___ ___ 34. Do you wear a respirator when applying agricultural chemicals?
- ___ ___ 35. Do you always read the label before using agricultural chemicals?
- ___ ___ 36. Do you always apply agricultural chemicals at the rate specified?
- ___ ___ 37. Before applying chemicals, do you clear the area of people and pets?
- ___ ___ 38. When spraying or dusting vegetables, flowers, shrubs or the lawn, do you wear long pants and long sleeves?
- ___ ___ 39. Do you always wash well after working with agricultural chemicals?
- ___ ___ 40. Do you have your clothes laundered before wearing them again after working with insecticides and pesticides?
- ___ ___ 41. Do you follow instructions given on the label for disposing of chemical containers?
- ___ ___ 42. Are all agricultural chemicals stored in a locked cabinet or building, or where children cannot get them?
- ___ ___ 43. Do you dispose of chemicals if the label has come off and you cannot identify the contents?
- ___ ___ 44. Do you keep all chemicals in their original labeled containers?

General

- ___ ___ 45. Do you inspect your trees after storms and in the spring for broken limbs that may fall?
- ___ ___ 46. Do you kill or remove poison ivy from your property annually?
- ___ ___ 47. Do you check for nests of stinging insects periodically?
- ___ ___ 48. Do you have your pets immunized as required?
- ___ ___ 49. If you have a swimming pool, do you have it fenced to keep little children out?
- ___ ___ 50. Do you wear hearing protection devices when operating gasoline lawn mowers, leaf mulchers, snow throwers or chain saws?
- ___ ___ 51. Do you wear gloves when working with shrubs and bushes?

YOUR GOAL SHOULD BE TO ELIMINATE ALL "NO" CHECKS



Wayne M. Maines
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