Grade Changes Affect
Adjacent Tree Growth

Changing grade levels during construction can damage established trees. The injury causes short annual twig growth, smaller and fewer leaves, early leaf drop, leaf scorch and an unhealthy appearance. These characteristics appear gradually and are noticed two or three years after construction.

Gerald E. Draheim, Michigan State University extension horticultural agent, offers these tips on preparing your landscape plans to avoid possible damage to trees you wish to save:

Try to avoid any change in grade level around trees that are to remain. If a change is necessary and fill is needed, provided rock or tile drain at the original ground level before fill is added.

If the fill needed should be more than one foot deep, build tree wells before excavation begins. Any excavations to lower the grade levels should be started as far from the tree as possible to avoid root damage. Maintain the original grade level near the trunk of the tree.

Cuts twice as fast as most lawn tractors, hugs the ground for hillside safety

NATIONAL 68-inch Triplex
Mows a 68-inch swath at speeds up to 4 miles per hour, a half acre in 15 minutes.

It's a turf-professional type mower, with three powered, free-floating reels that follow ground contour. It shears grass cleanly; doesn't leave unsightly "tip burn" as rotaries often do.

Reduces trimming time because the reels reach out over curbs, up to obstructions and in other hard-to-cut places.

Built to last—with Timken bearings, automotive-type transmission and a lip on the cutter bar to take years of wear.

Do your lawn job in about half the time and do it better with the all-mower mower, the National Triplex.

Other models from 25 to 84-inch cut.

Write for information.