

## COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

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### THINK TWICE WHEN YOU START YOUR POWER MOWER

Power mowers are dangerous. Nearly every suburbanite owns one; they are so common that they are taken for granted and the inherent danger largely forgotten. As a result, we hear more reports each year of injuries from these machines.

Although both reel and rotary mowers are dangerous, reel mowers are probably less hazardous than rotaries because the blades move more slowly and are not likely to pick up and throw stones, wire, or other debris. Also the blades are usually better protected so it is more difficult to get hands or feet into the cutting parts.

Mowers can be operated safely if some precautions are observed:

Always use a sharp mower. Sharp blades make a cleaner cut and the engine can be run at a slower speed and still cut nicely. Rotary mowers may need sharpening several times a season.

Walk over the entire lawn area and pick up stones, wire, sticks, toys, or other debris that could be picked up and thrown by the mower. Innocent bystanders can be hurt by flying debris. Wear sturdy shoes. It is amazing how many times people mow barefoot with a speeding blade only inches from their toes. Do not allow young children to operate or play near running mowers.

Fill the gasoline tank outdoors and do not fill the tank if the engine is hot or running.

Start the mower carefully. Make sure the clutch is disengaged and feet and hands are clear of the blades. Stop the mower whenever it is unattended or someone approaches.

Run the mower only fast enough to do the job. Mowers are not built for speed. Speed only increases the danger of thrown debris or lost control.

Never adjust or clean out the mower until it has been stopped and the spark plug wire removed. Some rotary mowers can be started by turning the blades.

Finally, keep the mower clean and in good repair. Inspect it regularly and check the oil level before each use. Service the machine according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

Used sensibly, these machines safely relieve us of backbreaking work. Improperly used they could cost a hand or a foot.

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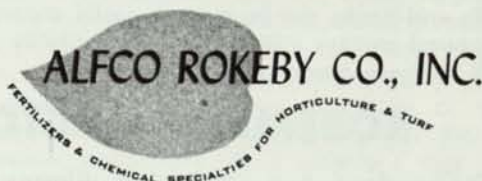
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## JOHN H. STAMPFL

August 18, 1908 — May 24, 1973

John died suddenly of a heart attack. He was actively supervising the maintenance of the grounds at Milwaukee Country Club until his death. He started work as a caddie at Milwaukee Country Club in early 1920. A few years later he was hired as a grounds man. In 1950 he became the Superintendent of Grounds, the position he held at the time of his death. In 1971 Milwaukee Country Club held a testimonial dinner in honor of his 50 years of service to the club. At this time he was presented with an inscribed watch, a testimonial plaque, and a sum of money. This was done in appreciation of his long service and the outstanding way he had kept the grounds, and hope was expressed that he would be with them many more years in his capacity as superintendent.

John was a member of the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association, having joined in 1950. In 1960 he joined the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. His action brought our national membership to 1500 before the close of the 1960 annual Meeting at Houston, Texas.

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