



Midsomer Norton Town Council

Risk Assessment Form – Grounds Maintenance – Mowing and Strimming

Activity: Grounds Maintenance – Mowing and Strimming			Assessment Date: August 2024		Review date: August 2025
Hazard and Risk	Persons Affected and Risk	Controls	Risk Score	Further Controls	Risk Level
<p>Mowing and Strimming</p> <p>Flying debris - stones/glass thrown up.</p>	<p>Employee/Operative</p> <p>Members of the public</p> <p>Personal injury:</p> <p>Cuts and infections such as Tetanus, Septicaemia, Hepatitis B, and HIV.</p>	<p>Ensure equipment guards are intact, wear full PPE.</p> <p>Equipment maintained in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions.</p> <p>Stone guards fitted to equipment.</p> <p>Employees instructed to check area for glass/stones before cutting grass.</p> <p>Employees ensure there are no members of public within 30 feet of equipment when in use.</p>	High	<p>Operatives to carry out thorough checks.</p> <p>Use of PPE provided.</p> <p>Appropriate equipment provided.</p> <p>Safe System of Work.</p> <p>Trained and competent Staff.</p>	Medium
<p>Mowing and Strimming</p> <p>Noise</p>	<p>Employee/Operative</p> <p>Personal injury:</p> <p>Ear damage.</p>	<p>Equipment with low noise levels purchased.</p> <p>Ear defenders provided and worn when equipment is in use.</p>	Medium	<p>Use of PPE provided.</p> <p>Appropriate equipment provided.</p> <p>Safe System of Work.</p>	Low

		Employees monitored to ensure ear defenders are worn.		Trained and competent Staff.	
Mowing and Strimming Vibration through hands from machines	Employee/Operative Personal injury: Hand Arm Vibration Syndrome” (White Finger)	All machinery to be fitted with anti-vibration handles. Equipment kept sharp and well maintained. All operatives using this type of equipment issued with liner gloves to keep hands warm and to reduce vibration, Teams encouraged to rotate tasks to reduce exposure time. Relax grip where possible and exercise/massage fingers and hands during times of inactivity. Operatives to report any tingling or numbness in the hand, arm, elbow and shoulder. Winter overhauls of machinery, operatives trained in the use of machinery. Risks to be pointed out at team meetings.	Medium	Use of PPE provided. Appropriate equipment provided. Safe System of Work. Trained and competent Staff.	Low
Mowing and Strimming Fuelling machines	Employee/Operative Fire Personal injury: Burns	Operator’s manual, competence in use of machine. PPE boots, overalls, dust mask, gloves, glasses. Maintain tools.	Medium	Use of PPE provided. Appropriate equipment provided. Safe System of Work. Trained and competent Staff.	Low

		<p>Dedicated fuel cans used with funnel or pouring spout.</p> <p>Fire extinguisher carried in each vehicle, dry powder or BCI to meet BS5423.</p> <p>PPE gloves, overalls and boots.</p>			
<p>Mowing and Strimming</p> <p>Slips, Trips, Falls</p>	<p>Employee/Operative</p> <p>Personal injury:</p> <p>Cuts and infections such as Tetanus, Septicaemia, Hepatitis B, and HIV.</p> <p>Pulls/strains/muscular/skeletal injuries.</p>	<p>Additional lighting available.</p> <p>Employees visually inspect areas to minimise slip and trip hazards, removing any hazards as appropriate.</p> <p>If uneven surface deemed particularly hazardous, work to be rearranged pending suitable remedial work to surface.</p> <p>Constricted work areas to be avoided.</p>	Medium	<p>Operatives to carry out thorough checks.</p> <p>Use of PPE provided.</p> <p>Appropriate equipment provided.</p> <p>Safe System of Work.</p> <p>Trained and competent Staff.</p>	Low
<p>Mowing and Strimming</p> <p>Contact by moving parts</p>	<p>Employee/Operative</p> <p>Members of the public.</p> <p>Personal injury:</p> <p>Cuts and infections such as Tetanus, Septicaemia, Hepatitis B, and HIV</p>	<p>Only trained and competent persons should use equipment.</p> <p>Prestart checks should be carried out prior to use and defects reported.</p> <p>Warning signage and safety barriers erected in high-risk public areas.</p> <p>Operator to wear PPE while operating machinery, gloves, helmets, eye protection, safety gloves and boots.</p> <p>Cleaning and refuelling should only take place when equipment is switched off. Plant and machinery should be maintained in line with manufactures guidelines.</p>		<p>Operatives to carry out thorough checks.</p> <p>Use of PPE provided.</p> <p>Appropriate equipment provided.</p> <p>Safe System of Work.</p> <p>Trained and competent Staff.</p>	

		Faulty equipment to be removed immediately for repairs.			
Mowing and Strimming Lone working	Employee/Operative Assault on staff. Verbal Abuse. Impact Injury. Undetected accident.	Training undertaken prior to duties (being undertaken) from induction/procedures manual. Staff selection - people skills and abilities are matched to the demands of job. Phones issued to lone worker with programmed numbers to senior staff. PPE equipment provided. Reflective clothing provided.	Medium	Mobile phone provided and charged. Safe Working Practice. Trained and competent Staff. Inform Team Leader/Manager if a deviation from daily route is needed. Regular reporting and “checking-in” procedures in place. Inform Team Leader/Manager of any abusive or expected abusive behaviour.	Low
Mowing and Strimming Outdoor Working	Employee/Operative Personal injury due to slip/trip. Exposure to elements. Rain, ice/snow, excessive heat. Heat exhaustion and sun stroke.	Wet/cold weather clothing provided. Water available for regular breaks during the heat. Operatives to be fully aware of road conditions in adverse weather. Operatives to report any areas of concern, some or all areas may be cancelled. Mobile phone provided in case of emergency.	Medium	PPE issued. Program works to suit weather conditions.	Low

<p>Mowing and Strimming</p> <p>Working adjacent to water</p>	<p>Employee/Operative</p> <p>Personal injury due to slip/trip.</p> <p>Drowning.</p> <p>Ground surfaces-uneven or slippery.</p> <p>Steep banks.</p> <p>Shrubs, brambles, tree branches etc.</p> <p>Deep or fast flowing water.</p>	<p>Operatives to report any areas of concern, some or all areas may be cancelled.</p> <p>Mobile phone provided in case of emergency.</p> <p>Where possible litter etc should be removed from riverbanks by means of drag rakes.</p> <p>All works around streams and canals will be a 2-person operation, 1 person remaining at top of each bank equipped with a rope in case the other requires assistance.</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>PPE issued.</p> <p>Program works to suit weather/water conditions.</p> <p>If solo working on riverbanks – a safety lanyard must be used and attached to an appropriate anchorage.</p> <p>Operatives should steer clear of the water's edge by at least 2 feet.</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>Mowing and Strimming</p> <p>Working on or adjacent to highway</p>	<p>Employee/Operative</p> <p>Personal injury due to slip/trip.</p> <p>Personal injury due to public vehicles.</p>	<p>Training undertaken prior to duties from induction/procedures manual.</p> <p>Staff selection i.e. people skills and abilities are matched to the demands of job.</p> <p>Phones issued with programmed numbers to senior staff.</p> <p>PPE equipment provided reflective clothing, phone.</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Mobile phone provided and charged.</p> <p>Safe Working Practice.</p> <p>Trained and competent Staff.</p> <p>Inform Team Leader/Manager if a deviation from daily route is needed.</p> <p>Reporting procedures in place.</p> <p>Chapter 8 Training.</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>Mowing and Strimming</p> <p>Manual handling</p>	<p>Employee/Operative</p> <p>Personal injury:</p> <p>Pulls/strains/muscular/skeletal injuries.</p>	<p>Employees trained in manual handling techniques.</p> <p>Ensuring stable work area to avoid slips and tilting.</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Use of PPE provided.</p> <p>Appropriate equipment provided.</p> <p>Safe System of Work.</p>	<p>Low</p>

		Light-weight equipment used where possible. Restricted time using equipment.		Trained and competent Staff.	
Mowing and Strimming Contact with pollen, dust, grass etc.	Employee/Operative Personal injury: Allergies.	Filter masks provided to employees on request. Sensitive employees put on alternative duties to reduce exposure to allergens.	Medium	Filter masks provided to employees on request. Sensitive employees put on alternative duties to reduce exposure to allergens.	Low
Mowing and Strimming Biological Hazards. Contact with broken glass, metal objects, faeces/vomit, used condoms, syringes and hypodermic needles.	Employee/Operative Personal injury: Cuts and infections such as Tetanus, Septicaemia, Hepatitis B, and HIV	Handheld litter picker used. Appropriate PPE to be worn at all times. All employees issued with protective leather gloves. Shovel and broom provided to aid clearing up of spillages. Staff monitored to ensure using gloves etc. Wash facilities or similar available and good hygiene followed. First aid kit available. Instructions given on how to safely handle needles and other sharp objects, and suitable equipment provided. Do not pick up unidentified and potentially hazardous waste or handle any biohazard. Report any such hazards to Team Leaders.	Medium	Use of PPE provided. Appropriate equipment provided. Safe System of Work. Trained and competent Staff.	Low
Assessor's signature:			Clerk's signature		
Date:			Date:		

