



# 444E LOADER



JOHN DEERE

## OPERATORS MANUAL 444E LOADER

OMAT123458 F1 English

**JOHN DEERE DUBUQUE WORKS**  
**OMAT123458 F1**  
**(This manual replaces AT139654)**

LITHO IN THE U.S.A.  
ENGLISH



# Introduction

READ THIS MANUAL carefully to learn how to operate and service your machine correctly. Failure to do so could result in personal injury or equipment damage.

THIS MANUAL SHOULD BE CONSIDERED a permanent part of your machine and should remain with the machine when you sell it.



THIS MACHINE IS OF METRIC design. Measurements in this manual are metric with the customary U.S. measurement following. Use only metric hardware and tools as specified.

RIGHT-HAND AND LEFT-HAND sides are determined by facing in the direction of forward travel.

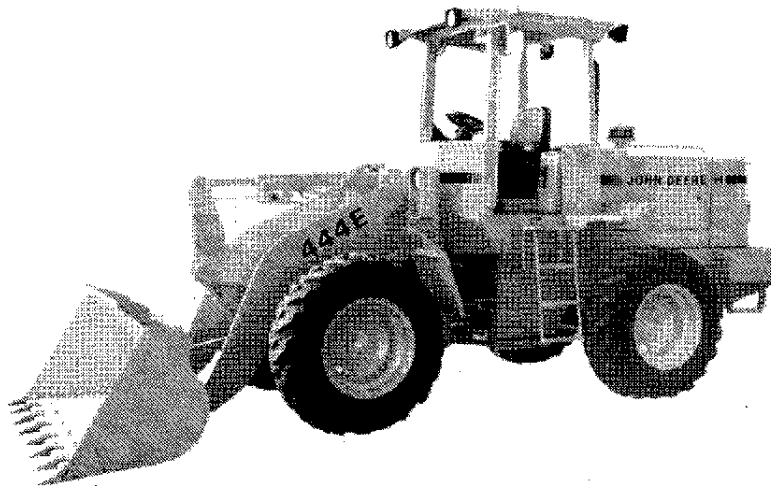
WRITE PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS in the Machine Numbers section. Accurately record all the numbers to help in tracing the machine should it be stolen. Your dealer also needs these numbers when you order parts. If this manual is kept on the

machine, also file the identification numbers in a secure place off the machine.

WARRANTY is provided as part of John Deere's support program for customers who operate and maintain their equipment as described in this manual. The warranty is explained on the warranty certificate which you should have received from your dealer.

This warranty provides you the assurance that John Deere will back its products where defects appear within the warranty period. In some circumstances, John Deere also provides field improvements, often without charge to the customer, even if the product is out of warranty. Should the equipment be abused, or modified to change its performance beyond the original factory specifications, the warranty will become void and field improvements may be denied. Setting fuel delivery above specifications or otherwise overpowering machines will result in such action.

THE TIRE MANUFACTURER'S warranty supplied with your machine may not apply outside the U.S.



T6642CM  
-UN-04MAY89

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OMAT123458 F1-19-28MAY91

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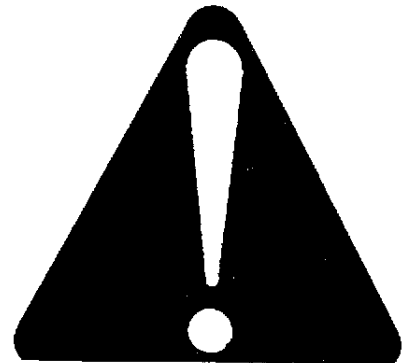
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# Safety

## RECOGNIZE SAFETY INFORMATION

This is the safety-alert symbol. When you see this symbol on your machine or in this manual, be alert to the potential for personal injury.

Follow recommended precautions and safe operating practices.



DX,ALERT -19-04JUN90

TS1289 -UN-07DEC88

## UNDERSTAND SIGNAL WORDS

A signal word—DANGER, WARNING, or CAUTION—is used with the safety-alert symbol. DANGER identifies the most serious hazards.

DANGER or WARNING safety signs are located near specific hazards. General precautions are listed on CAUTION safety signs. CAUTION also calls attention to safety messages in this manual.



DX,SIGNAL -19-04JUN90

TS187 -19-30SEP88

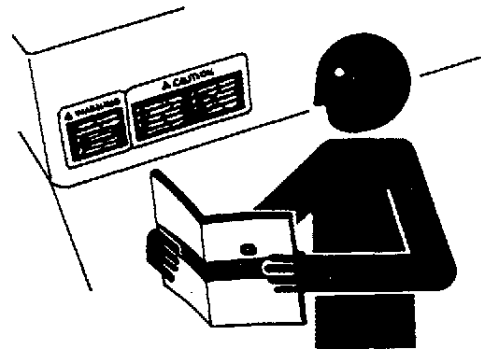
## FOLLOW SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Carefully read all safety messages in this manual and on your machine safety signs. Keep safety signs in good condition. Replace missing or damaged safety signs. Be sure new equipment components and repair parts include the current safety signs. Replacement safety signs are available from your John Deere dealer.

Learn how to operate the machine and how to use controls properly. Do not let anyone operate without instruction.

Keep your machine in proper working condition. Unauthorized modifications to the machine may impair the function and/or safety and affect machine life.

If you do not understand any part of this manual and need assistance, contact your John Deere dealer.



DX,READ -19-04JUN90

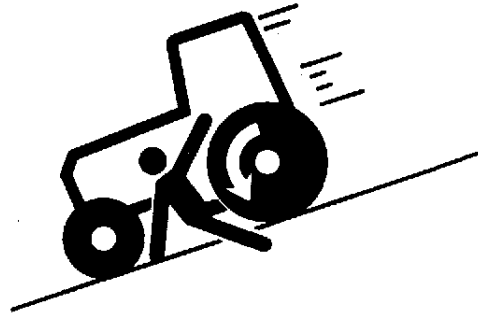
TS201 -UN-25AUG88



## **AVOID INJURY FROM ROLLAWAY ACCIDENTS**

**TO PREVENT ROLLAWAY, ALWAYS MAKE SURE MACHINE IS PROPERLY SECURED BEFORE LEAVING OPERATOR'S SEAT**

**DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY MAY RESULT IF YOU ATTEMPT TO MOUNT OR STOP A MOVING MACHINE**



To avoid rollaways:

Select level ground when possible to park machine.

Place transmission control lever in park brake.

Lower all equipment to ground.

Stop the engine.

Block all wheels if you must park on a grade. Position machine to prevent rolling.

Park a reasonable distance from other machines.

Read and understand the operating instructions in this operator's manual.

TT241AZ -JUN-21FEB90

TX,05,RR,492 -19-08JAN91

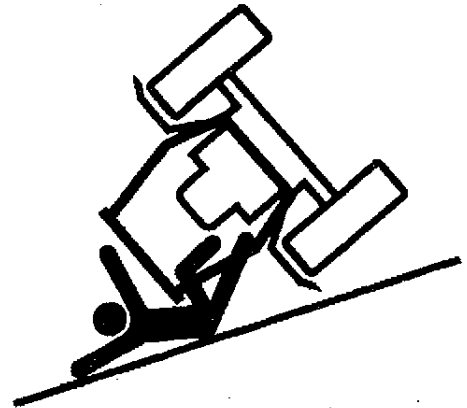


## **AVOID INJURY FROM ROLLOVER ACCIDENTS**

### **WEAR YOUR SEAT BELT**

**DO NOT ATTEMPT TO JUMP CLEAR OF TIPPING MACHINE--SERIOUS OR FATAL CRUSHING INJURIES WILL RESULT**

**MACHINE WILL TIP OVER FASTER THAN YOU CAN JUMP FREE**



To avoid rollovers:

Be careful when operating on a slope.

Avoid sharp turns.

Balance loads so weight is evenly distributed and load is stable.

Carry tools and loads close to the ground to aid visibility and lower center of gravity.

Reduce speed before turning or swinging load.

Know capacity of machine. Do not overload.

Be careful when operating at the edge of an excavation, trench, or drop-off, and loading or unloading from a trailer.

Read and understand the operating instructions in the operator's manual.



**USE  
SEAT  
BELT**

TX,05,RR,490 -19-08JAN91

T7242EA -19-22FEB90



## **AVOID INJURY FROM BACKOVER ACCIDENTS**

**BEFORE MOVING MACHINE, BE SURE ALL PERSONS ARE CLEAR OF AREA**

**ALWAYS BE ALERT FOR BYSTANDERS MOVING INTO THE WORK AREA. USE HORN OR OTHER SIGNAL TO WARN BYSTANDERS BEFORE MOVING MACHINE**

**WHEN USING A SIGNAL PERSON, KEEP PERSON IN VIEW AT ALL TIMES, BE SURE SIGNAL PERSON IS CLEAR BEFORE BACKING UP**



To avoid backover accidents:

Always look around before you back up. Be sure that everyone is in the clear.

Keep bystanders away from pivot area of an articulated machine.

Keep reverse warning alarm in working condition--if equipped.

Use a signal person when backing up if view is obstructed. Always keep signal person in view.

Learn the meaning of all flags, signs, and markings used on the job and who has the responsibility for signaling.

Keep windows, mirrors, and lights clean and in good condition.

Dust, heavy rain, fog, etc., can reduce visibility. As visibility decreases, reduce speed and use proper lighting.

Read and understand the operating instructions in this operator's manual.

T7241AY -JUN-21-FCB90

TX,05,RR,491 -19-08JAN91



## INSPECT MACHINE

Inspect your machine carefully each day by walking around it before you start it. (See Pre-Start Inspection Chapter.)



T82,BHSA,CL -19-14MAR90

T8607AQ -JUN-18OCT88

## USE HANDHOLDS AND STEPS

Falling is one of the major causes of personal injury.

When you get on and off the machine, always maintain a three point contact with the steps and handrails, and face the machine. Do not use the steering wheel or any controls as handholds.

Never jump on or off the machine. Never mount or dismount a moving machine.

Be careful of slippery conditions on platforms, steps, and handrails when leaving the machine.



TX,05,DH553 -19-18MAR91

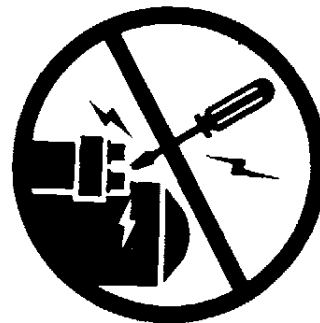
T6981AN -JUN-15JUN89

## PREVENT MACHINE RUNAWAY

Avoid possible injury or death from machinery runaway.

Do not start engine by shorting across starter terminals. Machine will start in gear if normal circuitry is bypassed.

NEVER start engine while standing on ground. Start engine only from operator's seat, with transmission in neutral or park.



DX,BYPAS1 -19-04JUN90

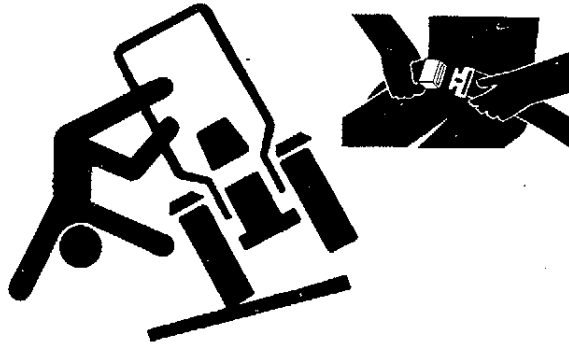
TS177 -JUN-11JAN89



## USE SEAT BELT PROPERLY

Use a seat belt when you operate with a roll-over protective structure (ROPS) or cab to minimize chance of injury from an accident such as an overturn.

Do not use a seat belt if operating without a ROPS or cab.



DX,ROPS1 -19-24AUG90

TS205  
-UN-23AUG88

## MAINTAIN SEAT BELT

It is important to use the seat belt on ROPS equipped machines to minimize the chance of injury from an accident such as an overturn. Keep the seat belt in good condition.

Carefully examine buckle, webbing, and attaching hardware.

Be sure that the retractor, if equipped, locks to prevent belt extension after latching buckle.

Be sure that attaching hardware is in place and secure.

**Replace the seat belt if it does not operate properly, or if it is damaged, worn, or deteriorated.**

TX,05,DH1741 -19-18MAR91



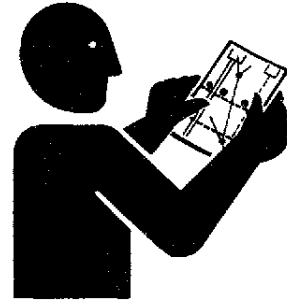
## OPERATE LOADER WITH CAUTION

Check location of cables, gas lines, and water mains before digging.

Keep loading area smooth.

Never lower a loaded bucket with the boom and bucket control lever in the float position.

Increase the power gradually when pulling a heavy load or when driving out of a ditch or excavation.



T82,FLSA,K -19-19AUG87

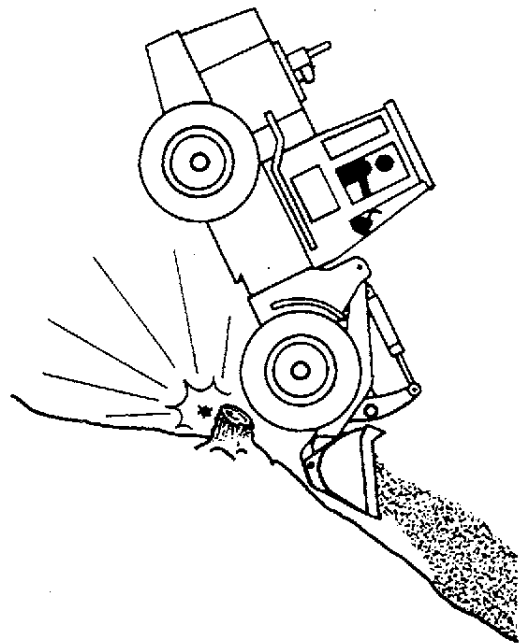
T6612EF -JUN-18OCT88

## OPERATING ON SLOPES

Avoid sideslope travel whenever possible. Drive up slope in forward and down in reverse. The danger of tipping is always present.

In steep slope operation, do not allow engine to overspeed. Select low gear speed before starting down slope.

The grade of the slope you should attempt will be limited by such factors as ground condition, and load being handled.



TX,05,RR,171 -19-27APR89

T7050AB -JUN-03AUG89



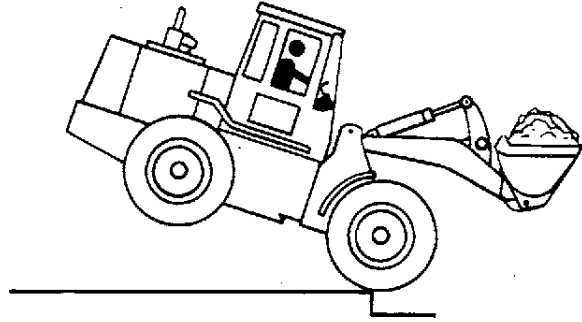
## CARRYING LOADS

Carry loader bucket as low as possible for better stability and visibility.

Handle only those loads which are properly arranged. Do not overload.

Do not start, stop or turn quickly when transporting a load.

Do not change forward or reverse directions quickly when carrying a load.



T7050AA -JUN-03AUG89

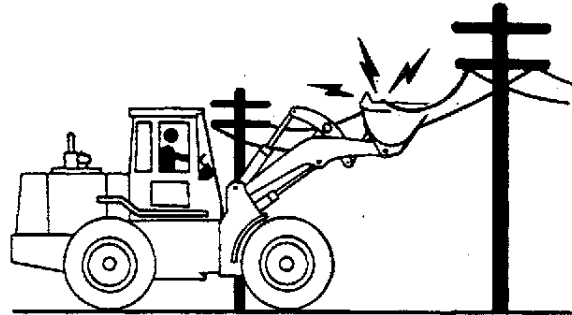
T7050AA

TX,05,RR,172 -19-27APR89

## AVOID POWER LINES

Serious injury or death can result from contact with electric lines.

Never move any part of the machine or load closer to electric line than 3 m (10 ft) plus twice the line insulator length.



T6642EG -JUN-20JUN89

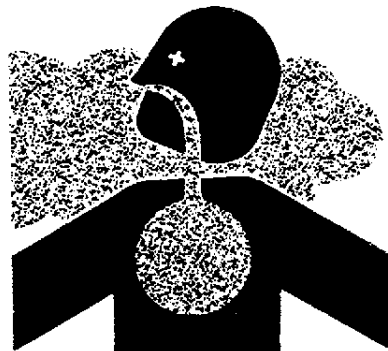
T6642EG

02T,05,J18 -19-18MAR91

## BEWARE OF EXHAUST FUMES

Prevent asphyxiation. Engine exhaust fumes can cause sickness or death.

If you must operate in a building, be positive there is adequate ventilation. Either use an exhaust pipe extension to remove the exhaust fumes or open doors and windows to bring enough outside air into the area.



T6469AO -JUN-18OCT88

T6469AO

02T,05,J9 -19-07JAN91



## PARK MACHINE SAFELY

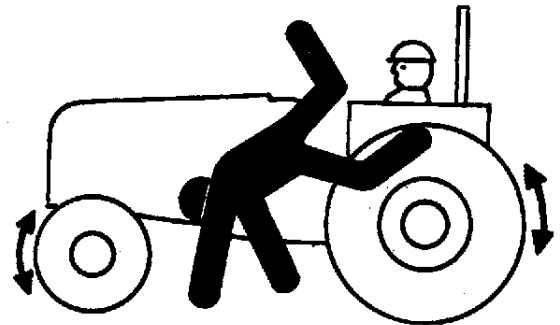
- Park machine on a level surface.
- Lower equipment to the ground.
- Move the Forward-Neutral-Reverse (FNR) lever to neutral "N".
- Apply park brake lever to the locked position.
- Run engine at 1/2 engine speed with no load for 2 minutes.
- Run engine at slow idle.
- Turn engine OFF.
- Remove key from switch.

TX,05,RR,1674 -19-28MAY91

## KEEP RIDERS OFF MACHINE

Only allow the operator on the machine. Keep riders off.

Riders on machine are subject to injury such as being struck by foreign objects and being thrown off of the machine. Riders also obstruct the operator's view resulting in the machine being operated in an unsafe manner.



DX,RIDER -19-04JUN90

TS230  
-JUN-23AUG88

## HANDLE FUEL SAFELY—AVOID FIRES

Handle fuel with care: it is highly flammable. Do not refuel the machine while smoking or when near open flame or sparks.

Always stop engine before refueling machine. Fill fuel tank outdoors.

Prevent fires by keeping machine clean of accumulated trash, grease, and debris. Always clean up spilled fuel.



DX,FIRE1 -19-04JUN80

TS202  
-JUN-23AUG88

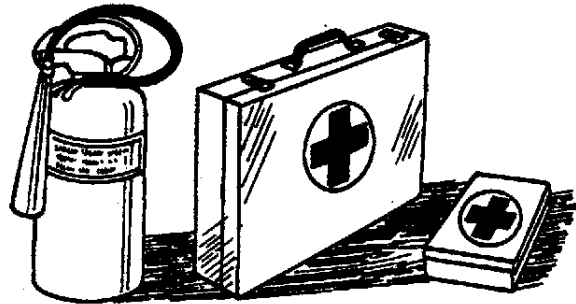


## PREPARE FOR EMERGENCIES

Be prepared if a fire starts.

Keep a first aid kit and fire extinguisher handy.

Keep emergency numbers for doctors, ambulance service, hospital, and fire department near your telephone.



DX,FIRE2 -19-04JUN90

TS291 -UN-23AUG88

## HANDLE STARTING FLUID SAFELY

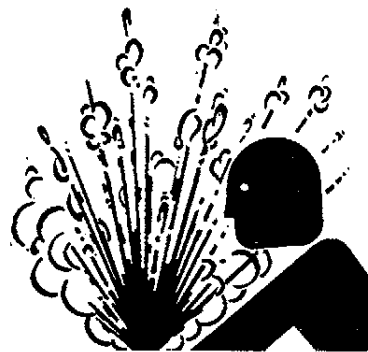
Starting fluid is highly flammable.

Keep all sparks and flame away when using it. Keep starting fluid away from batteries and cables.

Remove container from machine if engine does not need starting fluid.

To prevent accidental discharge when storing the pressurized can, keep the cap on the container, and store in a cool, protected location.

Do not incinerate or puncture a starting fluid container.



TX,05,FF2281 -19-22FEB91

T6464AV -JUN-18OCT86

## CLEAN TRASH FROM MACHINE

Keep engine compartment, radiator, batteries, hydraulic lines, fuel tank, and operator's station clean.

Temperature in engine compartment may go up immediately after engine is stopped. BE ON GUARD FOR FIRES DURING THIS PERIOD.

Open access door(s) to cool the engine faster, and clean engine compartment.



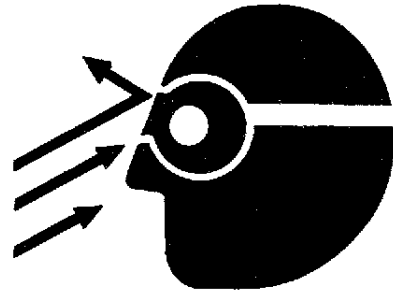
02T,05,J33 -19-14MAR90

T6669AG -JUN-18OCT88



## PROTECT AGAINST FLYING DEBRIS

When you drive connecting pins in or out, guard against injury from flying pieces of metal or debris; wear goggles or safety glasses.



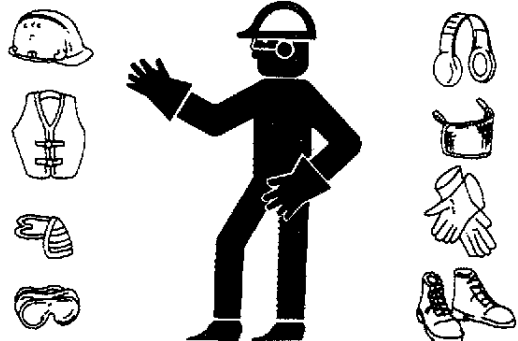
02T,05,J45 -19-30MAY90

T6842DK -JUN-18OCT88

## WEAR PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Wear close fitting clothing and safety equipment appropriate to the job.

Operating equipment safely requires the full attention of the operator. Do not wear radio or music headphones while operating machine.



DX,WEAR2 -19-10SEP90

TS206 -JUN-23AUG88

## PROTECT AGAINST NOISE

Prolonged exposure to loud noise can cause impairment or loss of hearing.

Wear a suitable hearing protective device such as earmuffs or earplugs to protect against objectionable or uncomfortable loud noises.



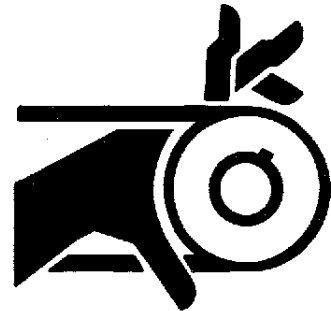
DX,NOISE -19-04JUN90

TS207 -JUN-23AUG88

## STAY CLEAR OF MOVING PARTS

Entanglements in moving parts can cause serious injury.

To prevent accidents, use care when working around rotating parts.



TX,05,RR,572 -19-12JUN90

T7273AS -JUN-08JUN90

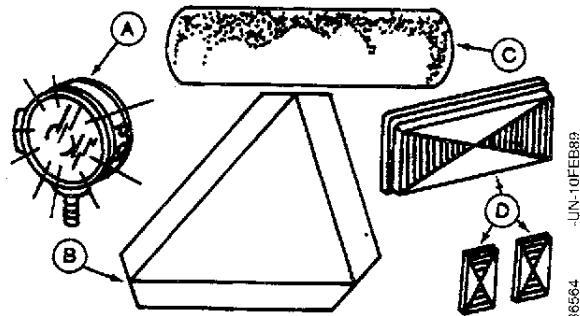


## USE SAFETY LIGHTS AND DEVICES

Operators of machines that travel below normal highway speeds should take special precautions to avoid collision with other vehicles.

Before driving on public roads, check state and local laws that may apply to tractors, self-propelled machines, and towed equipment. Additional lights, mirrors, SMV emblems, or reflectors may be required.

Install and use all safety lights and devices necessary to assure safe operation and local compliance. Keep these safety items in good condition. Replace missing or damaged parts immediately.



A—Lights  
B—Slow Moving Vehicle Emblem  
C—Reflector Tape  
D—Reflectors

N36564  
-JUN-10FEB88

TX,05,DH1729 -19-26JAN91

## KEEP ROPS INSTALLED PROPERLY

A damaged roll-over protective structure (ROPS) should be replaced, not reused.

The protection offered by ROPS will be impaired if ROPS is subjected to structural damage, is involved in an overturn incident, or is in any way altered by welding, bending, drilling, or cutting.

If ROPS was loosened or removed for any reason, inspect it carefully before operating the machine again.

To maintain the ROPS:

- Replace missing hardware using correct grade hardware.
- Check hardware torque.
- Check isolation mounts for damage, looseness or wear; replace them if necessary.
- Check ROPS for cracks or physical damage.

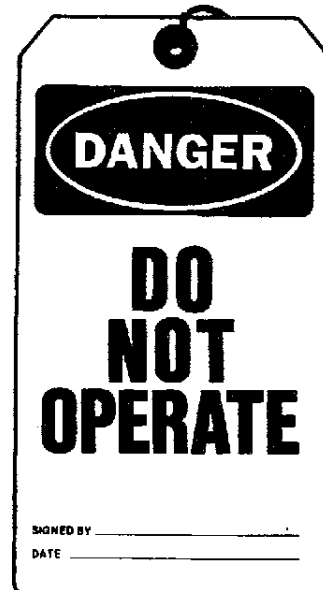
TX,05,PR,1750 -19-28MAY91



## WARN OTHERS OF SERVICE WORK

Unexpected machine movement can cause serious injury.

Before performing any work on the machine, attach a "DO NOT OPERATE" tag to the steering wheel.



TX,05,RR,1825 -19-17MAY91

T7447AC -19-22APR91

## PRACTICE SAFE MAINTENANCE

Understand service procedure before doing work. Keep area clean and dry.

Never lubricate or service machine while it is moving. Keep hands, feet, and clothing from power-driven parts. Disengage all power and operate controls to relieve pressure. Lower equipment to the ground. Stop the engine. Remove the key. Allow machine to cool.

Securely support any machine elements that must be raised for service work.

Keep all parts in good condition and properly installed. Fix damage immediately. Replace worn or broken parts. Remove any buildup of grease, oil, or debris.

Disconnect battery ground cable (-) before making adjustments on electrical systems or welding on machine.



DX,SERV -19-04JUN90

T5216 -JUN-23AUG88

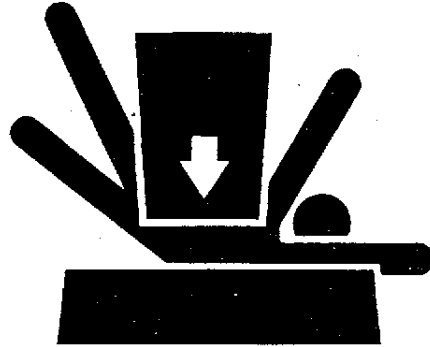
T5216



## SUPPORT MACHINE PROPERLY

Always lower the attachment or implement to the ground before you work on the machine. If you must work on a lifted machine or attachment, securely support the machine or attachment.

Do not support the machine on cinder blocks, hollow tiles, or props that may crumble under continuous load. Do not work under a machine that is supported solely by a jack. Follow recommended procedures in this manual.



-UN-23AUG88  
TS229

DX,LOWER -19-04JUN90

## REMOVE PAINT BEFORE WELDING OR HEATING

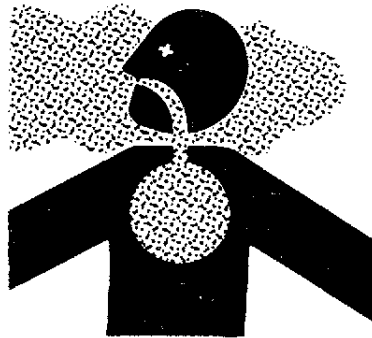
Avoid potentially toxic fumes and dust.

Hazardous fumes can be generated when paint is heated by welding, soldering, or using a torch.

Do all work outside or in a well ventilated area. Dispose of paint and solvent properly.

Remove paint before welding or heating:

- If you sand or grind paint, avoid breathing the dust. Wear an approved respirator.
- If you use solvent or paint stripper, remove stripper with soap and water before welding. Remove solvent or paint stripper containers and other flammable material from area. Allow fumes to disperse at least 15 minutes before welding or heating.



-UN-23AUG86  
TS220

DX,PAINT -19-04JUN90



## AVOID HEATING NEAR PRESSURIZED FLUID LINES

Flammable spray can be generated by heating near pressurized fluid lines, resulting in severe burns to yourself and bystanders. Do not heat by welding, soldering, or using a torch near pressurized fluid lines or other flammable materials. Pressurized lines can be accidentally cut when heat goes beyond the immediate flame area.



DX,TORCH -19-05OCT90

TSS953 -UN-15MAY90

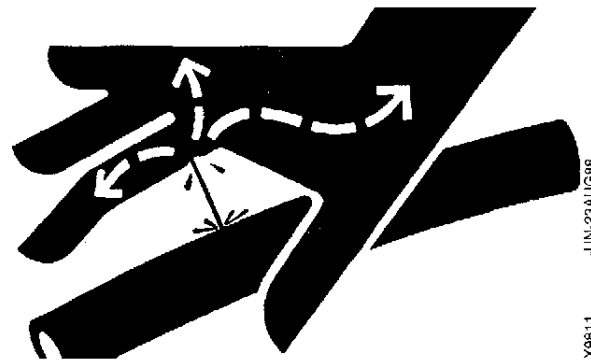
## AVOID HIGH-PRESSURE FLUIDS

Escaping fluid under pressure can penetrate the skin causing serious injury.

Avoid the hazard by relieving pressure before disconnecting hydraulic or other lines. Tighten all connections before applying pressure.

Search for leaks with a piece of cardboard. Protect hands and body from high pressure fluids.

If an accident occurs, see a doctor immediately. Any fluid injected into the skin must be surgically removed within a few hours or gangrene may result. Doctors unfamiliar with this type of injury may call the Deere & Company Medical Department in Moline, Illinois, or other knowledgeable medical source.



-UN-23AUG38

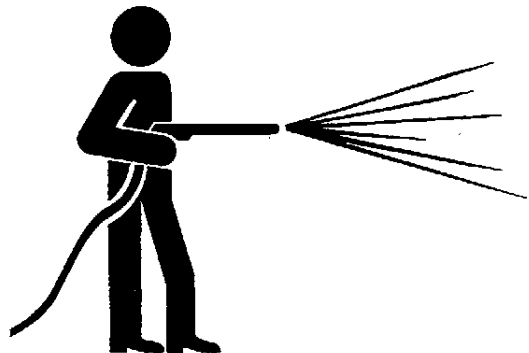
X8611

DX,FLUID,NA -19-11JUN90

## CLEAN THE MACHINE REGULARLY

Remove any grease, oil or debris build-up to avoid possible injury or machine damage.

Do not spray water or steam clean inside the cab.



TX,D5,FF1990 -19-05OCT90

-UN-18OCT88

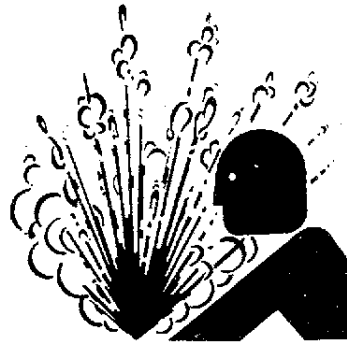
T8642EJ



## SERVICE COOLING SYSTEM SAFELY

Explosive release of fluids from pressurized cooling system can cause serious burns.

Shut off engine. Only remove filler cap when cool enough to touch with bare hands. Slowly loosen cap to first stop to relieve pressure before removing completely.



DX,RCAP -19-04JUN90

TS281 -UN-23AUG88

## STORE ATTACHMENTS SAFELY

Stored attachments such as dual wheels, cage wheels, and loaders can fall and cause serious injury or death.

Securely store attachments and implements to prevent falling. Keep playing children and bystanders away from storage area.



DX,STORE -19-04JUN90

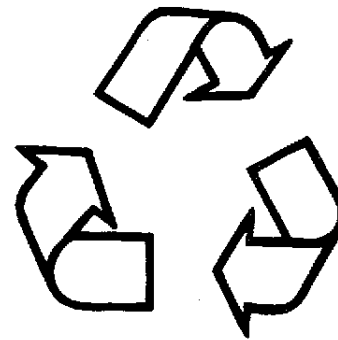
TS219 -UN-23AUG88

## DISPOSE OF WASTE PROPERLY

Improperly disposing of waste can threaten the environment and ecology. Potentially harmful waste used with John Deere equipment include such items as oil, fuel, coolant, brake fluid, filters, and batteries.

Use leakproof containers when draining fluids. Do not use food or beverage containers that may mislead someone into drinking from them.

Inquire on the proper way to recycle or dispose of waste from your local environmental or recycling center, or from your John Deere dealer. Do not pour waste onto the ground, down a drain, or into any water source.



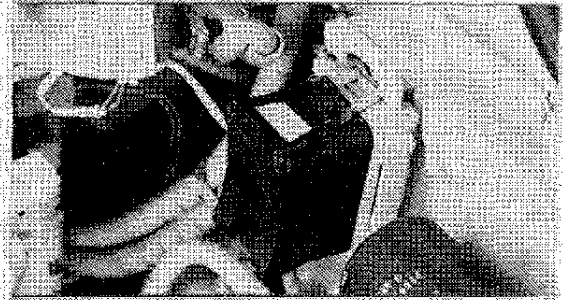
DX,DRAIN -19-15MAR91

TS1133 -UN-26NOV90

# Safety Signs

**CAUTION**  
This filter must not be  
pressurized over 30 psi  
as glass may shatter.  
XX

T6288BG1 -19-06JAN89



T6988AH -UN-27FEB89

TX,RR,1 -19-28MAY91

**! DANGER**

## EXPLOSIVE GASES

Cigarettes, flames or sparks could cause battery to explode. Always shield eyes and face from battery. Do not charge or use booster cables or adjust post connections without proper instruction and training. Keep vent caps tight and level.

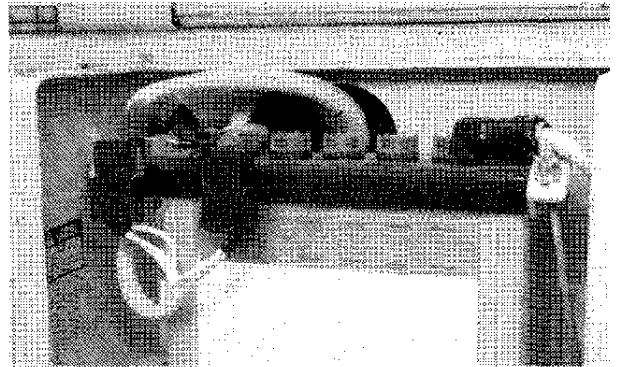
T124343

**POISON**

## CAUSES SEVERE BURNS

Contains sulfuric acid. Avoid contact with skin, eyes or clothing. In event of accident, flush with water and call a physician immediately. Keep out of reach of children.

T6888AC -19-06JAN89



T7477AQ -UN-15MAR91

TX,08,RR,1704 -19-28MAY91

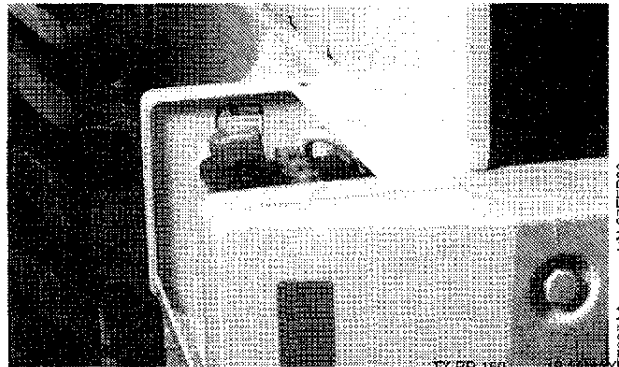
**! CAUTION**

This machine may be  
equipped with batteries on  
each side.

Always disconnect both  
ground straps before working  
on electrical system.

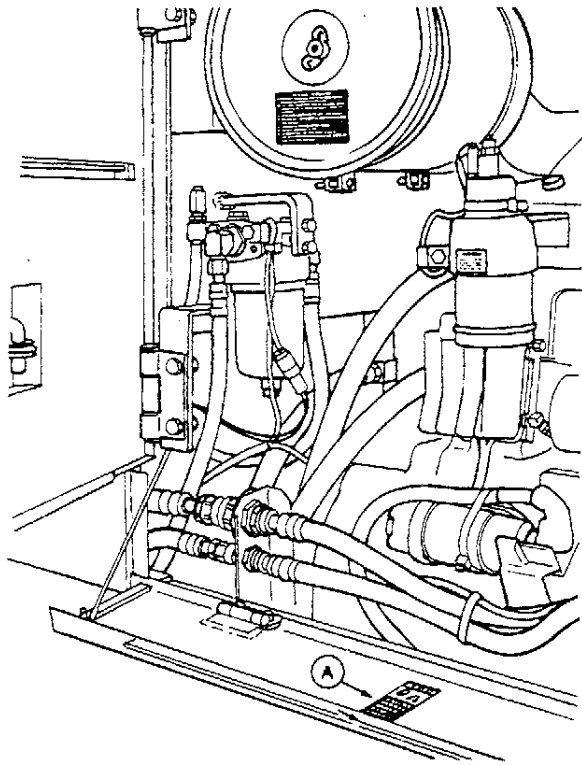
T123710

T6888AC -19-27FEB89



T7007AA -UN-27FEB89

TX,RR,150 -19-28MAY91





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**first, and then click the above link**

**to download the complete manual.**

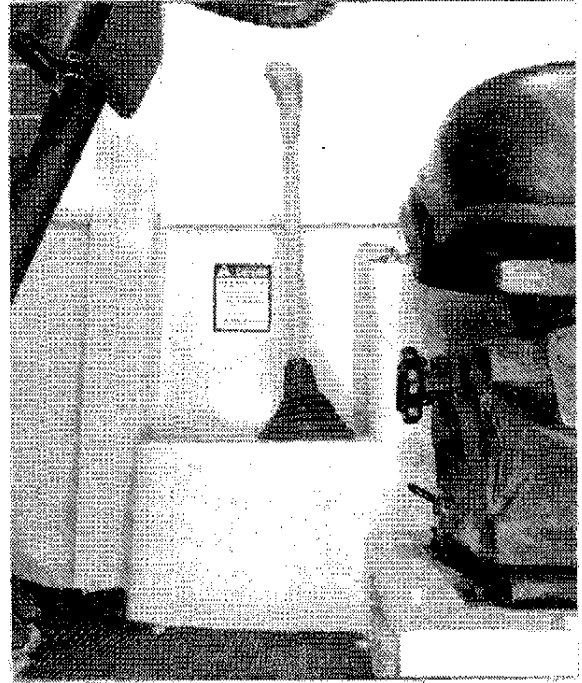
**Thank you so much for reading**



# CAUTION

1. Read and understand Operator's Manual before operating machine.
2. Operate machine only from operator's seat.
3. Before leaving operator's seat:
  - Lower bucket or forks to ground.  
(Key switch must be on)
  - Lock transmission selector in neutral.
  - Set parking brake.
  - Stop engine (Turn key switch to OFF).

T123782



T6988AA -19-27FEB88

T6988AI -JUN-06APR89

TX,RR,4

-19-28MAY91

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