

38, 48, and 54-Inch Commercial Walk-Behind Mowers

(Serial No. 050001 –)

OPERATOR'S MANUAL

**John Deere
Lawn & Grounds Care Division
OMM124224 J5**

North American Version
Litho in U.S.A
English

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SAFETY SIGNS

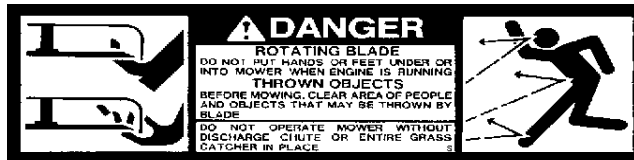
Safety-Alert Symbol

Read and recognize safety information. Be alert to the potential for personal injury when you see this safety-alert symbol.

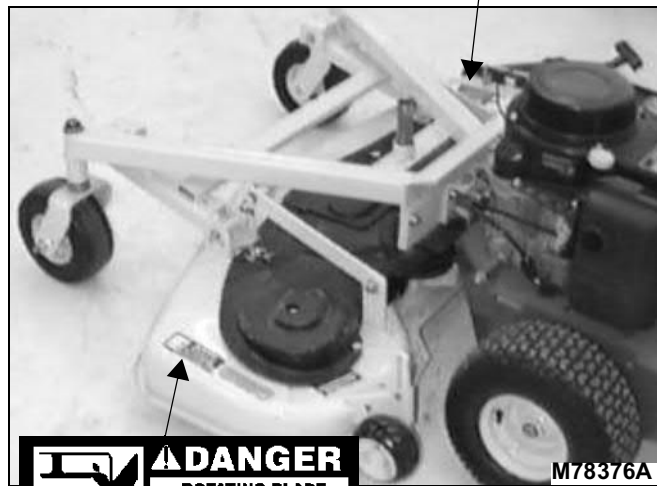
On your machine safety labels, the words DANGER, WARNING, and CAUTION are used with this safety-alert symbol. DANGER identifies the most serious hazards. In this manual, the word CAUTION and this symbol call attention to safety messages.



Machine Safety Labels

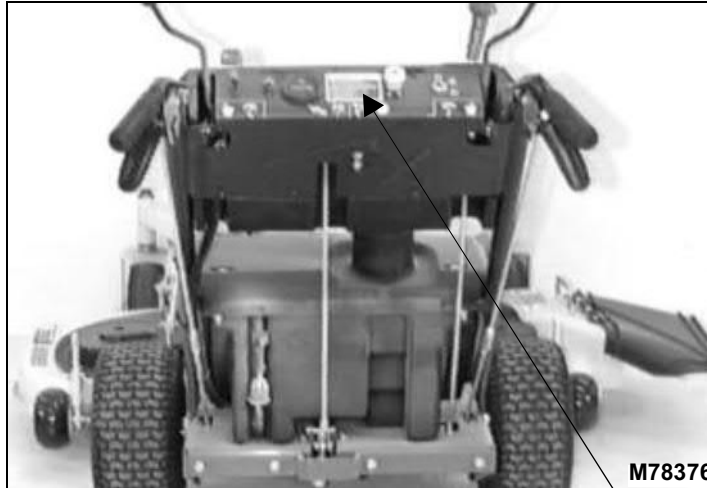


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SAFETY SIGNS



▲WARNING



SULKY

- DO NOT DRIVE ACROSS DITCHES
- SLOW DOWN FOR BUMPS AND HOLES

UNHITCH SULKY TO AVOID INJURY

On Sulky M73466

▲ CAUTION

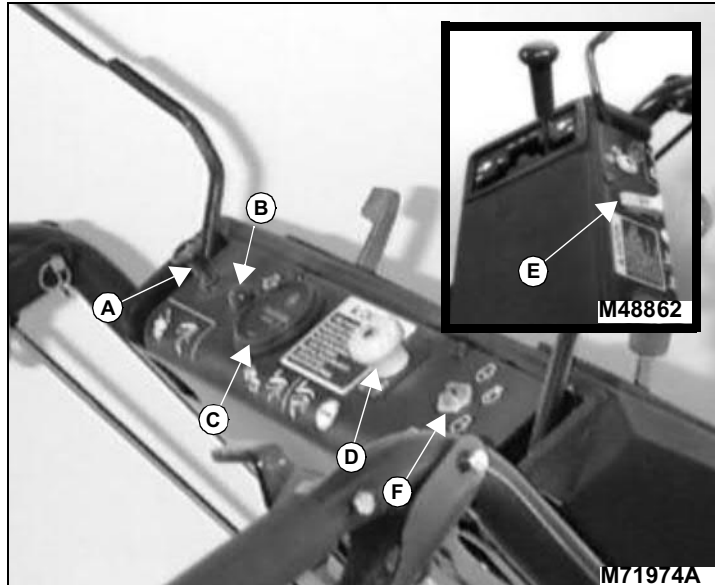
HELP AVOID INJURY

- OPERATOR TRAINING REQUIRED
- KNOW CONTROLS BEFORE OPERATING
- CLEAR AREA OF PEOPLE AND ANIMALS
- STOP ENGINE WHENEVER YOU LEAVE THE MOWER
- KEEP ALL SHIELDS AND SAFETY DEVICES IN PLACE
- READ OPERATORS MANUAL

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CONTROLS

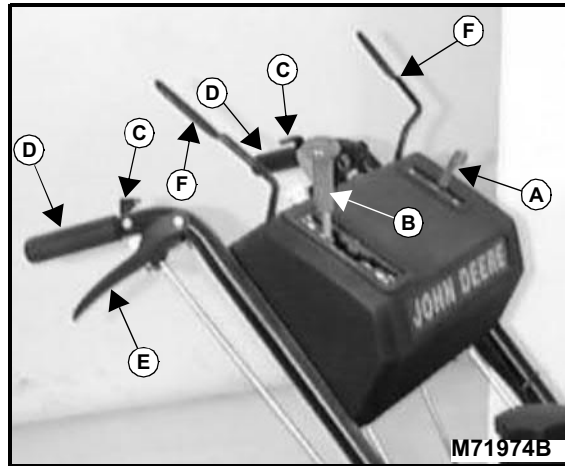
Console Controls



Title	Description
A – Choke Knob	Chokes engine for starting.
B – Low Oil Pressure Indicator	
C – Hour Meter	Hours machine has been run.
D – PTO Switch (Late Models) E – PTO Switch (Early Models)	Engages mower.
F – Key Switch	Starts engine.

CONTROLS

Mower Levers



Title	Description
A – Throttle Lever	Controls engine speed.
B – Shift Lever	Changes gears.
C – Neutral Lock	Holds turn/service brake levers in the neutral position.
D – Handle Bars	
E – Turn/Service Brake Levers	Controls direction of travel and stopping.
F – Traction Lever/Park Brake	Controls wheels equally./ Engages park brake.

CONTROLS


Engine Controls



Title	Description
A – Starter Handle (Recoil Start)	Starts engine.
B – Fuel Shutoff	Controls fuel flow.

OPERATING THE MACHINE

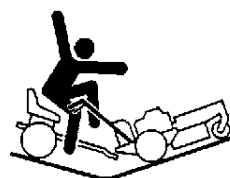
Operate Safely

- Inspect machine before you operate. Be sure hardware is tight. Repair or replace damaged, badly worn, or missing parts. Be sure guards and shields are in good condition and fastened in place. Make any necessary adjustments before you operate.
- 
- Check brake action before you operate. Adjust or service brakes as necessary.
 - Clear work area of objects that might be thrown. Keep people and pets out of the work area. Stop machine if anyone enters the area.
 - If you hit an object, stop the machine and inspect it. Make repairs before you operate. Keep machine properly maintained and in good working order. Keep all shields and guards in place.
 - DO NOT leave machine unattended when it is running.
 - Only operate during daylight or with good artificial light.
 - Be sure of footing. Be especially careful when you pull machine backwards with the engine running.
 - DO NOT mow wet grass. Reduced traction could cause you to slip.
 - Keep a firm hold on the machine handles.
 - Be careful of traffic when operating near or crossing roadways.
 - Do not wear radio or music headphones while operating the machine. Safe operation requires your full attention.

OPERATING THE MACHINE

Operate Sulky Safely

- Use sulky ONLY on EVEN terrain for mowing mostly in a straight line.
- Be careful when you drive sulky and mower through a dip. Handlebars may hit you, ESPECIALLY when you make a turn.



Park Safely

- Stop machine on a level surface, not on a slope.
- Disengage PTO
- Engage park brake.
- STOP engine.
- Remove key.
- Before you leave the machine, wait for engine and all moving parts STOP.

Avoid Tipping

- DO NOT use sulky or grass catcher on slopes or uneven ground.
- Stay alert for holes and other hidden hazards in the terrain.
- Keep away from drop-offs.
- Slow down before you make a sharp turn or operate on a slope.
- Drive up and down a hill - not across. Be careful when you change direction on a slope.
- DO NOT stop when going up hill or down hill. If machine stops going up hill, STOP PTO and back down slowly.
- DO NOT mow a steep slope where you cannot maintain firm footing and control of the mower.
- If operating with a sulky, DO NOT try to stabilize the machine by putting your foot on the ground.



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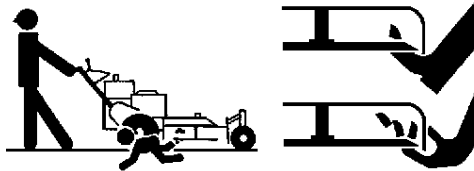
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OPERATING THE MACHINE

Rotating Blades Are Dangerous - Protect Children and Prevent Accidents



PROTECT CHILDREN:

- Never assume that children will remain where you last saw them. Children are attracted to mowing activity, stay alert to the presence of children.
- Keep children in the house when you are operating the machine.
- Turn machine off if a child enters the area.
- Use extra care when you come to blind corners, shrubs, trees, or other objects that may block your vision.
- DO NOT let children or an untrained person operate the machine.

HELP PREVENT SERIOUS OR FATAL ACCIDENTS:

- Be alert at all times, people especially children can move quickly into the area before you know it.
- Back carefully. Shut off PTO and look behind the machine carefully, ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN, before you back up.
- DO NOT mow in reverse unless it is absolutely necessary.
- Shut off PTO when you are not mowing.
- DO NOT operate machine if you are under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Keep hands, feet, and clothing away from rotating blades.

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