

# **524D and 826D Walk-Behind Snowblowers**

**(Serial No. 160001 –      )**

## **OPERATOR'S MANUAL**

**John Deere  
Lawn & Grounds Care Division  
OMM126613 E6**

**North American Version  
Litho in U.S.A  
English**

# INTRODUCTION

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
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**THANK YOU** for purchasing a John Deere product.

Read this manual thoroughly. Failure to do so could result in personal injury or equipment damage.



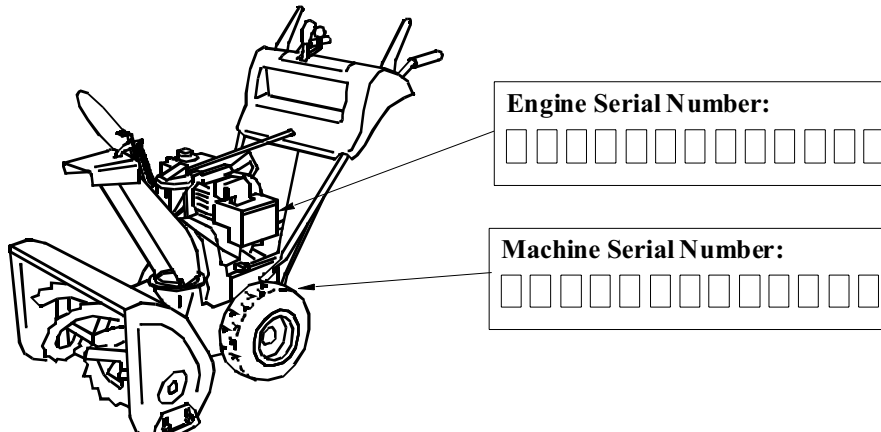
This manual should be considered a permanent part of your machine and should remain with the machine when you sell it.

Measurements in this manual are metric units and their U.S. customary equivalents. RIGHT-HAND and LEFT-HAND sides are determined by facing in the direction of forward travel. When you see a broken line arrow (  ) it indicates the part it is pointing to is hidden.

Product 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 product warranty is explained on the warranty certificate you received from your dealer.

Record identification numbers below. Be sure to record all the numbers to help in tracing the machine if it is stolen. You also need to give these numbers to your dealer when you order parts.

<b>Date of Purchase:</b> _____	<b>Dealer Name:</b> _____	<b>Phone:</b> _____
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# SAFETY SIGNS

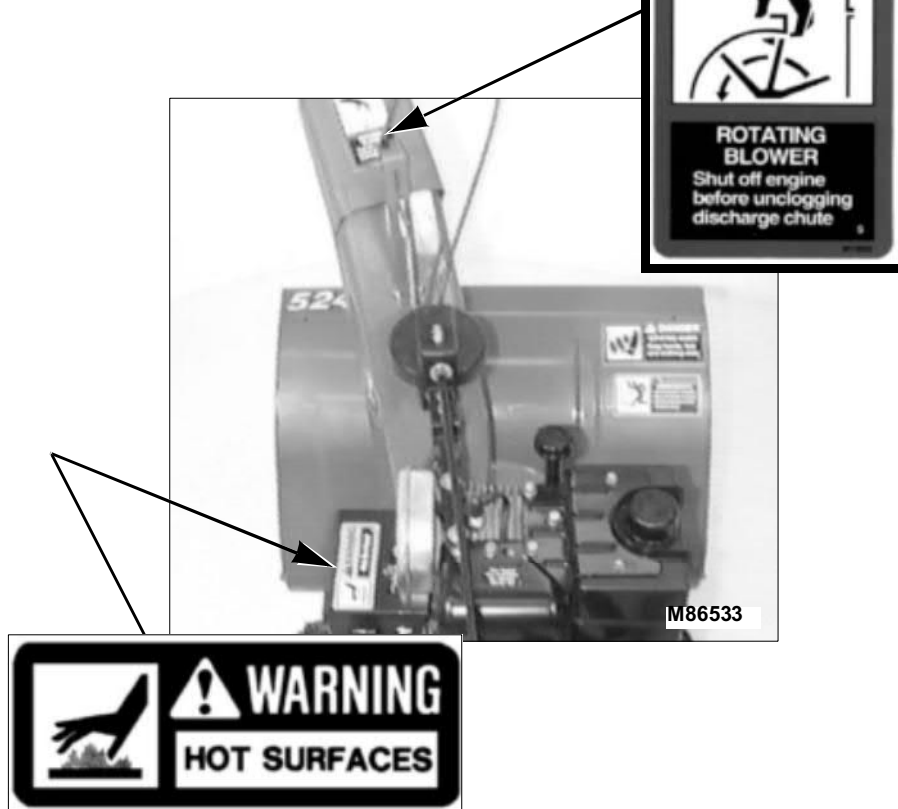
## Safety-Alert Symbol

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.

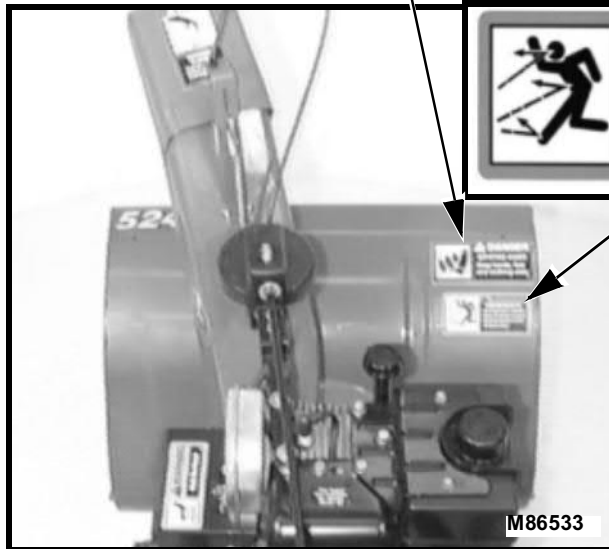


## Machine Safety Labels



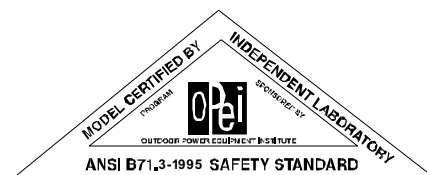
## SAFETY SIGNS

### Machine Safety Labels (continued)



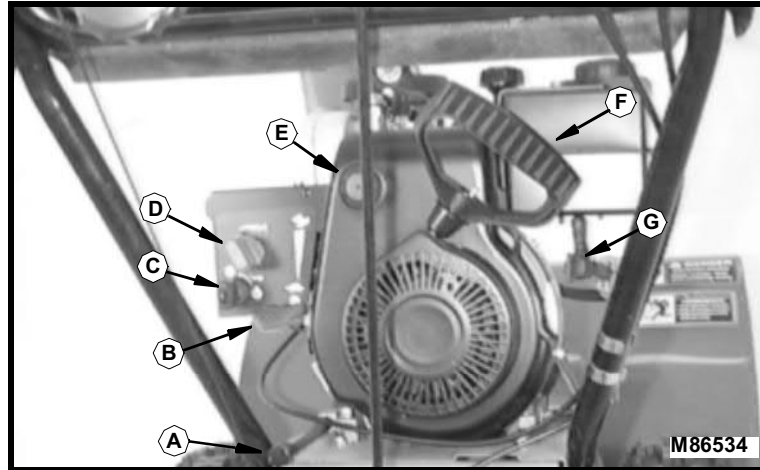
### Certification Label

This OPEI label on your snow thrower indicates that this model has been certified by an independent laboratory for compliance with American National Standard B-71.3-1995, "Safety Specifications" for Snowthrowers.



# CONTROLS

## .Engine Controls



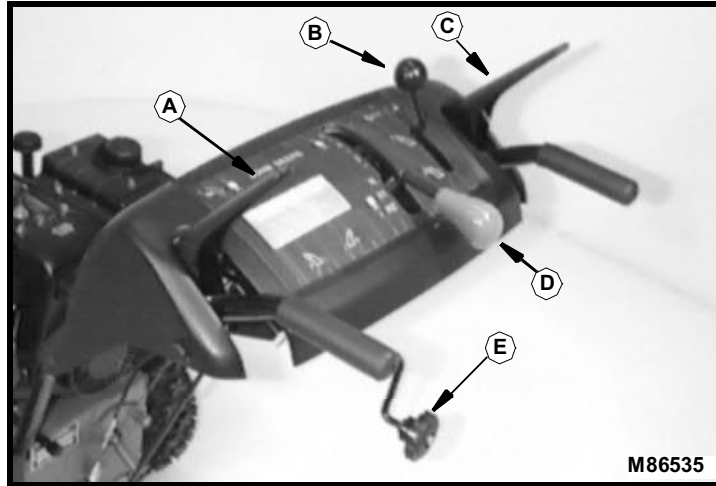
- A - Engine Oil Drain Plug ..... Drains engine oil.
- B - Throttle Lever ..... Controls engine speed.
- C - Key / Key Switch ..... Starts and stops engine.
- D - Choke Knob ..... Chokes engine for starting.
- E - Primer Bulb ..... Primes engine for starting.
- F - Starter Handle ..... Pull to start engine.
- G - Fuel Shut Off Knob ..... Controls fuel supply to engine.

# CONTROLS

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## Console Controls



- A - Traction Drive Lever.....Engages traction drive.**
- B - Chute Deflector Lever..... Changes angle of chute deflector.**
- C - Auger Drive Lever ..... Engages auger drive.**
- D - Speed Selector Lever.....Changes ground speed.**
- E - Discharge Chute Control.....Moves discharge chute.**

# OPERATING

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## 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.
- 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 blow snow toward people, cars, or buildings.
- DO NOT use snowblower on surfaces above ground level, such as, a roof of a building.
- Be extremely careful if you must clear snow from a gravel path. Be aware that snowblower may pick up gravel in snow. Adjust spout angle carefully to blow this snow safely.
- DO NOT leave machine unattended when it is running.
- Only operate during daylight or with good artificial light.
- Be sure of footing. Operate slowly on slippery surfaces. Be especially careful when you pull machine backwards with the engine running.
- DO NOT blow snow across a slope. Be careful when you change direction on a slope. Do not try to clear snow from steep slopes. Keep away from edge of a ditch or bank.
- Keep a firm hold on the machine handles. Avoid sudden starts and stops.
- DO NOT run engine in a building unless there is good ventilation.



## OPERATING

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### **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 blowing snow, 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.
- Shut off auger when you are not blowing snow.
- Keep hands, feet, and clothing away from moving parts.

### **Wear Appropriate Clothing**

- Wear close fitting clothing and safety equipment appropriate for the job.
- Loud noise can cause impairment or loss of hearing, wear a suitable protective device such as earplugs.



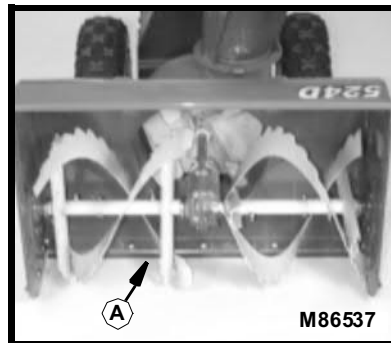
## OPERATING

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### Adjusting Scraper Blade

**IMPORTANT:** If scraper blade wears too far auger/impeller housing may be damaged.

1. Park snowblower on a hard, smooth surface.
2. Stop engine, remove key, wait for all moving parts to stop.
3. Remove wire from spark plug to prevent accidental starting.
4. Tip unit back onto handle bars and support housing.
5. Adjust skid shoes to their FULL UP position.
6. Inspect scraper blade (A):
  - If scraper blade has excessive wear, replace it.
  - If scraper blade can be adjusted; loosen nuts and reposition scraper blade, flush with skid shoes.
7. Tighten nuts.
8. Adjust skid shoes to the proper height. (See Adjusting Skid Shoes in this section).



# OPERATING

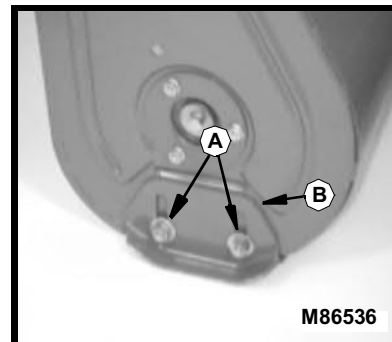
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## Adjusting Skid Shoes

Adjust skid shoe height for proper working conditions:

- **To operate on a smooth, hard surface:** Adjust skid shoes so there is 3mm (1/8 in.) between scraper blade and surface.
- **To operate on gravel or uneven surface:** Adjust skid shoes so there is 30mm (1-1/4 in.) between scraper blade and surface.

1. Park snowblower on a hard, smooth surface.
2. Stop engine, remove key, wait for all moving parts to stop.
3. Remove wire from spark plug to prevent accidental starting.
4. Check tires:
  - Air pressure in both tires should be equal, although some machine leveling can be made by using different pressures. Check for a maximum of 165 kPa (24 psi) in each tire.
  - Each tire must be resting on hard surface, not a cross-link of tire chain.
5. Put a block under auger housing.
6. Inspect skid shoes:
  - If skid shoes have excessive wear, replace them.
  - If skid shoes can be adjusted; loosen two nuts (A) and move skid shoe (B) to desired position.
7. Tighten nuts. Adjust other skid shoe to the same height.



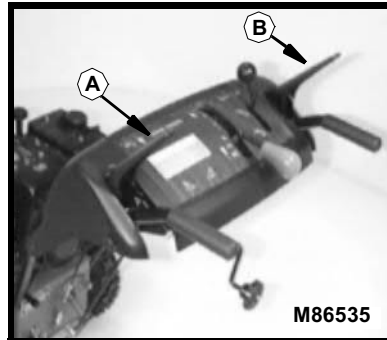
## OPERATING

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### Using Drive Control Levers

#### TRACTION DRIVE LEVER (A):

- Pull lever (A) to handle to ENGAGE the traction drive.
- Release lever to DISENGAGE traction drive.
- Traction drive lever (A) works independently from the auger drive lever (B).



- If unit does not respond, is slow to respond or engages too aggressively when the traction drive lever is engaged. (See Adjusting Traction Drive Clutch in the Service section).

#### AUGER DRIVE LEVER (B):

- Pull lever (B) to handle to ENGAGE the auger drive.
- Release lever to DISENGAGE auger drive.
- Auger drive lever (B) works independently from the traction drive lever (A).
- If auger is not throwing snow very well or it feels like the auger drive belt is slipping when the auger drive lever is engaged. (See Adjusting Auger Drive Belt Tension in the Service section).
- If the auger does not come to a complete STOP in 5 seconds or less after the auger drive lever is released. (See Adjusting Impeller / Auger Brake in the Service section).

# OPERATING

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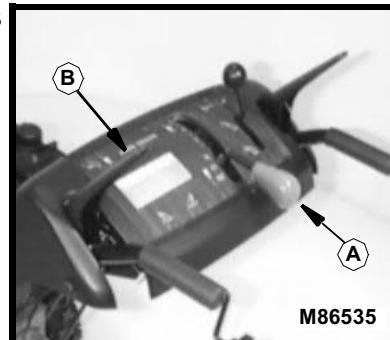
## Using Speed Selector Lever



**CAUTION: DO NOT overload machine capacity by attempting to clear snow at too fast a rate.**

The speed selector lever (A) controls the units forward speed and reverse motion:

- Moving the speed selector lever forward increases forward travel. There are six forward speeds available: “1” is the slowest speed and “6” is the fastest speed.
- Moving the speed selector lever rearward increases reverse travel. There are two reverse speeds available: “R1” is the slowest speed and “R2” is the fastest speed.



### TO OPERATE SPEED SELECTOR LEVER:

- With engine running, position speed selector lever in the notch of the desired speed and ENGAGE the traction drive lever (B).
- Forward speed can be changed without declutching (releasing traction drive lever).
- DO NOT change motion from forward to reverse with traction drive lever ENGAGED.
- Release traction drive lever to STOP forward or reverse travel.
- Drive wheel slippage will occur as the traction drive disk wears. (See Adjusting Traction Drive Clutch in the Service section.)

# OPERATING

## Using Discharge Chute Controls

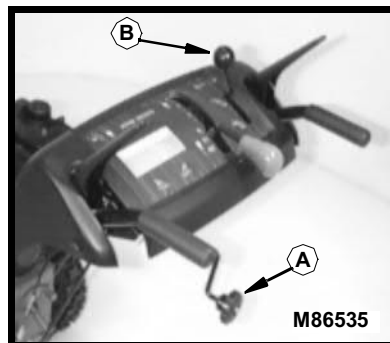


- CAUTION:**
- **DO NOT** put hands or feet near or under rotating parts.
  - **Keep clear of discharge opening at all times.**
  - **DO NOT** use hands to unclog chute.

### DISCHARGE CHUTE

The discharge chute control (A) will rotate the discharge chute (D):

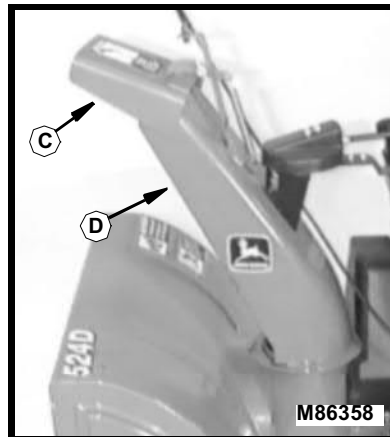
- The discharge chute will rotate (full right, straight ahead, or full left).
- If discharge chute is too difficult to rotate or is too loose. (See Adjusting Chute Crank in the Service section.)



### CHUTE DEFLECTOR

The chute deflector lever (B) will control the chute deflector (C):

- The chute deflector will determine how high or low snow will be thrown.
- If the chute deflector becomes difficult to move or is too loose. (See Adjusting Chute Deflector Lever in the Service section.)





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## OPERATING

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### Pre-Starting Engine

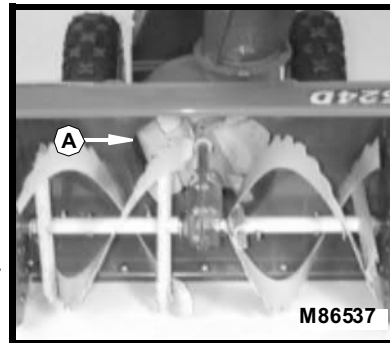
**IMPORTANT:** In very cold weather, check impeller to be sure it is not frozen. Starting with a frozen impeller could damage the unit.

To check unit for a frozen impeller (A):

- Disconnect spark plug wire from spark plug.
- Engage auger drive lever.
- Pull engine rewind starter.

**If impeller is frozen:** Rewind starter can not be pulled. Move unit to a heated area so ice around impeller can thaw.

**If Impeller is not frozen:** Rewind starter can be pulled – it will be more difficult than normal.



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