

**GROUNDS/MOVERS
CARETAKER/EQUIPMENT OPERATOR
Ref. Code: G-C-6**

INSTALLING SOD		
Activity	Hazard Identification	Required Precautions
1. Driving truck or tractor and pull-behind rototiller to and from work site.	1. Motor vehicle accident; striking pedestrians, bicyclists, and persons using rollerblades.	1. Wear prescription lenses, if required, and seatbelt. Verify that rototiller is securely attached to tractor. Verify that all equipment on vehicle is secured properly. Stay alert for pedestrians, bicyclists, and persons using rollerblades.
2. Adding gasoline to small gas-powered rototiller.	2. Splashed with gasoline; gasoline in eyes.	2. Wear safety glasses. Pour slowly to avoid splashing.
3. Loading small gas-powered rototiller onto pickup truck using aluminum ramps.	3a. Rototiller falling off ramps.	3a. Verify that ramps are set at right width for rototiller.
	3b. Splinters.	3b. Wear gloves.
	3c. Rototiller falling over and spilling gasoline; rototiller hitting rear window of truck cab.	3c. Tie rototiller securely in the back of the truck.
4. Unloading rototiller from truck.	4a. Rototiller falling off ramps.	4a. Verify that ramps are set at right width for rototiller.
	4b. Rototiller going down ramps too fast, striking worker or causing worker to lose control.	4b. Two people are required to remove rototiller from the truck, one to stand on the side to keep ramps straight and one to slowly push rototiller down the ramps.
	4c. Worker or pedestrian falling from ramps.	4c. Remove ramps from truck once rototiller is removed.
	4d. Splinters.	4d. Wear gloves.
5. Preparing work area using small gas-powered rototiller.	5a. Struck by rocks or other debris.	5a. Wear eye protection. Verify that shield on rototiller is in place. Survey area for hazards before beginning work.
	5b. Struck by handles of rototiller.	5b. Rototiller will jerk up if it hits a tree root or large rock. Stay alert and work carefully. If you hit an obstacle, let go of the rototiller handles. Take rototiller out of gear to turn it off.

	5c. Severe injuries to feet; dismemberment.	5c. Always make sure rototiller is disengaged before starting it. Wear safety shoes. Keep feet clear of blades.
	5d. Loss of fingers or hands.	5d. Disengage rototiller and completely shut it off before trying to clean rototiller teeth. Wear gloves and safety glasses.
6. Hooking pull-behind rototiller to tractor.	6a. Fingers pinched when hooking up cotter pins and gear boxes.	6a. Wear gloves.
	6b. Worker struck by tractor.	6b. Back up tractor very slowly and know where coworkers are.
	6c. Back strain and/or overexertion when hooking rototiller up to tractor.	6c. Two people are required to hook up the rototiller to the tractor.
7. Greasing fittings on pull-behind rototiller.	7. Grease on skin or in eyes.	7. Wear gloves and safety glasses.
8. Preparing work area using pull-behind rototiller attached to tractor.	8a. Striking pipes or lines.	8a. Inspect area for obstructions before beginning work.
	8b. Caretakers working on the ground being struck by rocks or other debris.	8b. Verify that rototiller shields are in place. Tractor driver must know where ground crew is at all times. Members of ground crew must keep a safe distance from tractor/rototiller.
	8c. Hit by low-hanging branches or other obstacles.	8c. Stay alert for low branches and other obstacles.
	8d. Loss of hearing.	8d. Wear ear protection.
	8e. Cuts; severe lacerations; dismemberment.	8e. Wear gloves.
9. Unloading sod from truck.	9a. Back strain; overexertion.	9a. Know your weight lifting capacity and get help if needed. Do not try to lift too much at one time. Lift using leg muscles. Keep back straight.
	9b. Dirt in eyes.	9b. Wear safety glasses.

10. Cutting sod with knife or sharp shovel.	10. Severe cuts and lacerations.	10. Keep hands away from blades. Cut away from yourself. Wear gloves.
11. Laying sod.	11. Joint problems, irritation to knees from working on knees for long periods of time.	11. Wear knee pads. Take breaks as needed to stretch.