

HAZARD ALERT

Industry: Local government

Age: 29

Experience: 9 weeks

Area: Lower Mainland

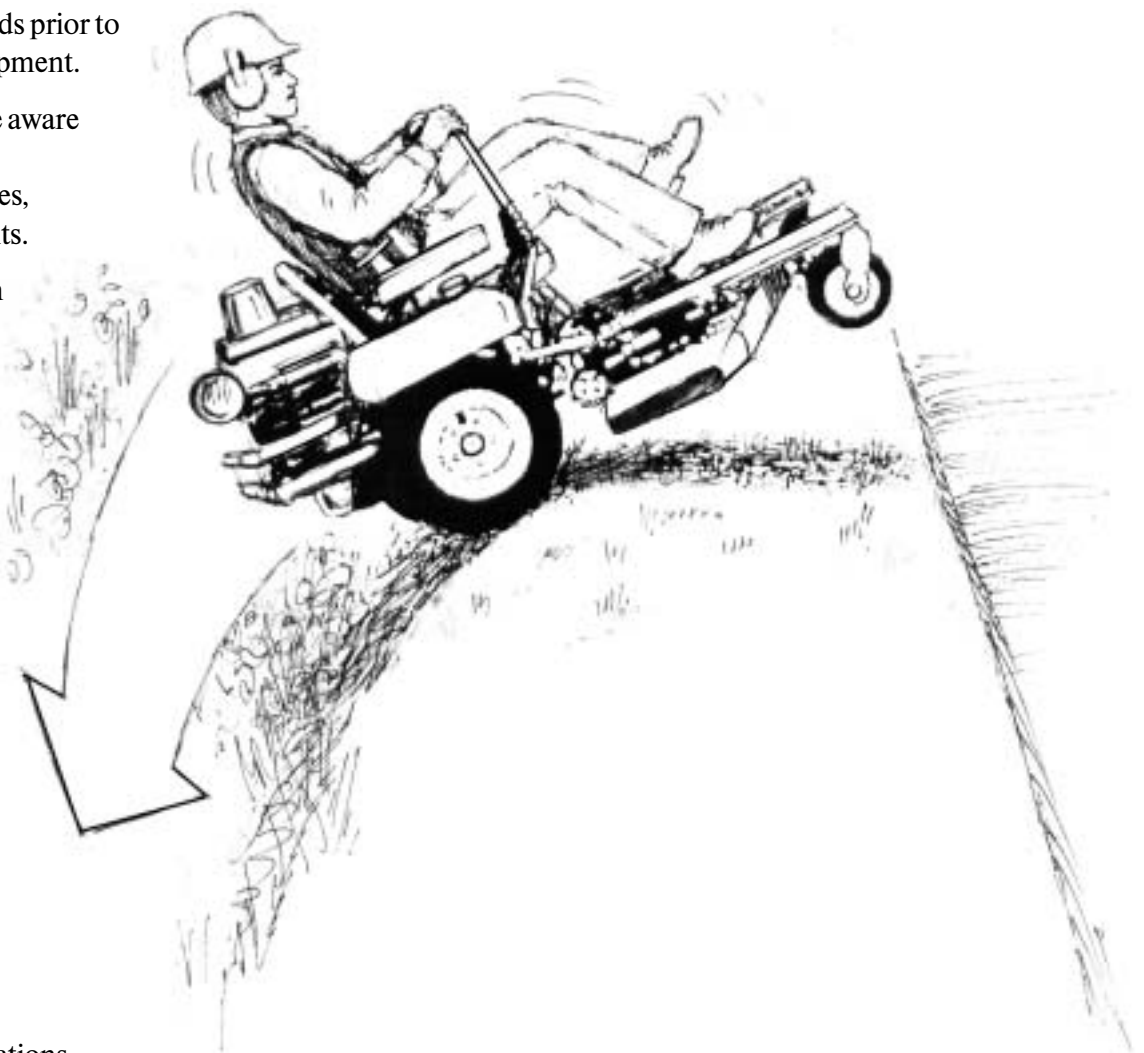
Lawnmower overturns, fatally crushing worker

A worker on a ride-on lawnmower backed over a curb to access grass on a narrow boulevard. Immediately after the front wheels mounted the curb, the rear wheels began to slide down an embankment hidden by tall grass and bushes. The mower overturned, fatally crushing the worker.

An investigation found this type of mower could not be safely operated near steep terrain.

Safe work practices:

- Check terrain for hazards prior to operating mowing equipment.
- Ensure that workers are aware of the risks of operating mowers near steep slopes, ditches, or embankments.
- Use equipment that can be safely operated when mowing near steep slopes, such as walk-behind power mowers, brush cutters, or boom-mounted flail mowers equipped with a rollover protective structure (ROPS).
- Develop and implement safe work procedures for the operation of mowers.
- Train workers and supervisors in the safe operation and use limitations of mowers.



FATALITY
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