



# TRACTOR/MOWER

## Operation & Safety Training

**Target Audience:** This course is designed specifically for DOT District employees, municipal public works, streets/roads, parks, water utility and/or other city or county employees who engage in greenscape maintenance of city/county parks, rights-of-way, infrastructure, and other outdoor/roadside facilities.

The course will be tailored to suit the client's needs and applicable equipment. Training can include lawn work with small to medium-sized mowers, hedge and brush trimming, line trimming, leaf blowing, etc, and also safety principles for using larger mower equipment and bush hogs. Training includes a review of hazards related to working with mower equipment used for maintenance of parks and surrounding areas, how to perform walk-around inspections and how to use inspection checklists for optimal safety.

**The course is also recommended for** emergency backup personnel who may be called on in special circumstances such as after a natural disaster or any other reason where typical staff are not available or need extra support. Other recommended participants are crew leaders, division supervisors, agency safety officers, department safety coordinators, general safety trainers and/or fleet team members.

All students will receive a Training Certificate upon completion!



**For more information or to inquire about upcoming training dates:**

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**Website:** [WeTrainAmerica.com](http://WeTrainAmerica.com)

**ACCIDENT CASE STUDIES:** As an introduction, our program begins by detailing a number of tractor/mower accidents as they have been tracked over the past 20 years. Recent accident case studies are also covered showing real news agency newscast clips or news website photos to confirm authenticity of accidents.

**COMMON EXTERNAL WORK ZONE HAZARDS:**

- **Temporary Traffic Control:** Instruction on roadside, median or in-lane temporary traffic control, which includes initial vehicle placement, vehicle exiting, first device placement strategy, use of advanced warning signs, cones, barricades, arrow boards, flagmen, vehicle placement, vest and more.
- **Pedestrian Traffic Control:** Includes use of specific techniques/equipment to address pedestrian safety/traffic control (sidewalk disruption)
- **General Work Zone Perimeters:** Establishment of general work zone perimeters by delineating/cordoning the outer areas of a work zone using stakes, caution tape, plastic fencing, cones, barricades, other equipment and/or vehicle barriers to keep unauthorized persons from harm's way.



**INTERNAL WORK ZONE HAZARDS:**

- **Internal Work Zone Hazard Analysis:** Covers the need for an internal work zone safety plan, the pre-job briefing and use of a tailgate briefing checklist to aid lead workers in accounting for all expected hazards.
- **Internal Work Zone Perimeters:** Stresses the importance of locating objects, inclines, drop-offs, natural or manmade excavations and other special hazard areas that need to be marked, cordoned off or otherwise protected.
- **Overhead/Underground Utilities:** Educates the student on above and below-ground power line configurations, describing the various city/county worker activities that place employees at risk of contact with high voltage lines and emphasizing the accident prevention methods and safe work practices when operating near power utilities.
- **Pedestrian Worker Safety / Mobile Equipment (General):** This important part of the training classifies employees as equipment operators, helper-spotters, or general pedestrian workers. From the perspective of each employee class, firm rules that include mandatory high-visibility apparel, minimum distances between employees and machines, prohibited "dangerous proximity" or "blind spot" areas and other major do's & don'ts related to people and construction equipment are discussed.
- **Mobile Equipment Operations:** Primarily for operators, this section covers pre-job equipment inspection, safe mounting/dismounting, use of seat belts, improper uses, "no riders," panning/scanning, backing, movement around danger zones, on-road travel and trailering.
- **Unattended Work Zones:** Securing work zones from children/vandals during lunch or short-term reassignment or for multi-day absences.



**SPECIFIC TASKS AND HANDS-ON TRAINING:**

**Urban Mowing and Landscape Work:** For city/county lawn work with small to medium-sized mowers, hedge and brush trimming, line trimming, leaf blowing and mulch application.

**Highway and Rights-of-Way Maintenance:** This section deals with the use of larger mower equipment and bush hogs. Also reviews sod placement, re-sodding and watering.

**Zero-Turn Mower Operation & Safety:** Participants use department equipment (typically Toro and Scag mowers) to perform on an obstacle course during the hands-on portion of training.

**Tractors & Heavy Equipment Operations Safety:** This section covers the special hazards of working with larger mower equipment such as bush hogs, slope mowers and batwing mowers, and other heavy equipment used for maintenance of parks, highways, right-of-ways, airports, etc. and surrounding areas, including how to perform proper walk-around inspections, and using inspection checklists.

**Optional Segments for Baseball Field Maintenance Available.**