


1 Purpose	To outline the requirements for the safe operation of walk-behind snow blowers.
2 Application	Applies to all NTPC employees and contractors required to operate a walk-behind snow blower.
3 Definitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil
4 References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operator's Manual • SWP 1.24: Working in Cold Weather
5 Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil
6 PPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work gloves • CSA-approved safety glasses • High-visibility clothing • CSA-approved foot protection • CSA-approved hearing protection
7 Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informed of any risk associated with, instructed in the safe use of, and deemed competent in the operation of a walk-behind snow blower.
8 Work Practice	<p>Before Starting Snow Blower</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Familiarize yourself the <i>Operator's Manual</i> to ensure understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Function and operation of the snow blower; ○ How to operate all controls, and; ○ How to stop in an emergency. • Conduct a pre-use inspection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Check oil level ○ Check fuel level ○ Check tire condition ○ Ensure all protective devices are in place and working properly. ○ Check for loose or worn parts. <p>Operating the Snow Blower</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a Tailboard Meeting to assess hazards and implement controls. Document the meeting on <i>Form 2.3: Tailboard Meeting</i>. • Before starting the snow blower ensure the blade is in a clear area and cannot contact the ground or any other

obstruction.

- Start the snow blower and warm it up before operating.
 - Ensure the blade is not engaged – it must never rotate while the engine is idling.
 - Direct the discharge chute towards a safe location.
- Never leave the snow blower running unattended.
- Test all controls to ensure they are functioning properly.
- Conduct a visual inspection of the area from which snow will be removed, checking for:
 - Obstacles;
 - Bystanders;
 - Objects that may be thrown by or damage the unit; and
 - Property that may be damaged by thrown snow or objects.
- Always wear the prescribed personal protective equipment, including appropriate winter clothing.
- Only engage the blade while operating the snow blower. If leaving the controls, ensure the blade is disengaged.
- Remain alert for any unexpected hazards.
- Move snow blower slowly, using sure footing.
- Pace yourself. Exertion in the cold increases the risk of a heart attack (refer to *SWP 1.24: Working in Cold Weather*).
- Operate the snow blower well away from uneven terrain (e.g., drops or embankments).
- Ensure footwear and wheels have good traction while operating on inclines.
- Take care not to throw gravel when operating on gravel surfaces by keeping the front end of the snow blower above grade.
- Slow down before changing direction.
- If the snow blower is damaged or malfunctions, it shall be immediately removed from service, tagged with a Special Instructions Tag with the appropriate message (e.g., out of service for repair), and reported to the manager.

Do Not

- Do not operate with loose clothing or long hair that could get caught in rotating parts.
- Do not remove or circumvent any safety devices on the equipment.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not blow snow towards people, traffic, buildings, or roadways. • Do not overload the machine capacity by attempting to clear snow at too fast a rate. • Do not approach the blade unless the engine is turned off and the key is removed. • Do not use hands to remove material from blade area or discharge chute; instead use a shovel, stick, or pole. <p>Refueling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refuel the snow blower: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In a well-ventilated area; ○ Away from open sources of ignition; ○ With the engine turned off; • Smoking is prohibited while refuelling.
9 Documentation	Form 2.3: Tailboard Meeting



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2.18

Development		
Name	Position	Date
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