

7 Spring Mower Prep Tips from John Deere



Source: www.TurfMagazine.com

With spring kicking off, landscape contractors across the country are counting down the minutes until they can get back out on the job. Before cranking up their mowers, here are a [few important steps](#) contractors should take prior to setting out for spring.

- **Give machines a once over** – From nuts and bolts to belts, contractors need to look over their machine for any loose or worn parts. Tighten nuts and bolts, replace filters and check and replace belts as needed. Look for any missing parts and plugs and replace them.
- **Check tires** – Winter weather can affect tire pressure, particularly if machines have been stored for months. Check the tire pressure and examine treads for wear.
- **Fuel up** – Add fresh gas to your mowers. Fuel stabilizer should also be added to prevent separation that can lead to corrosion. After adding the stabilizer, run the engine for five minutes to let it settle in.
- **Sharpen your blades** – It is important to check blades for dullness and corrosion prior to starting up the engine. Replace any blades that have logged too many hours. It is important to check blade balance for even cut.
- **Cut height** – Check the height-of-cut on all of your equipment prior to heading out. This is one of the most important aspects of machine prep.
- **Check your manual** – Whether it's digital or print, make sure to log maintenance schedule and any issues from last season to see what is preventable this year and what can be improve on. Be sure to check any equipment operator manuals to refresh on safety and troubleshooting information.

- **Make a daily checklist** – Daily checklists help your service crew and operators complete important tasks. Encourage equipment cleaning, blade checks/sharpening as need, and lubricating the pulleys and spindles.

Hover over the red bull's-eye icons to review each area of the mower image:

