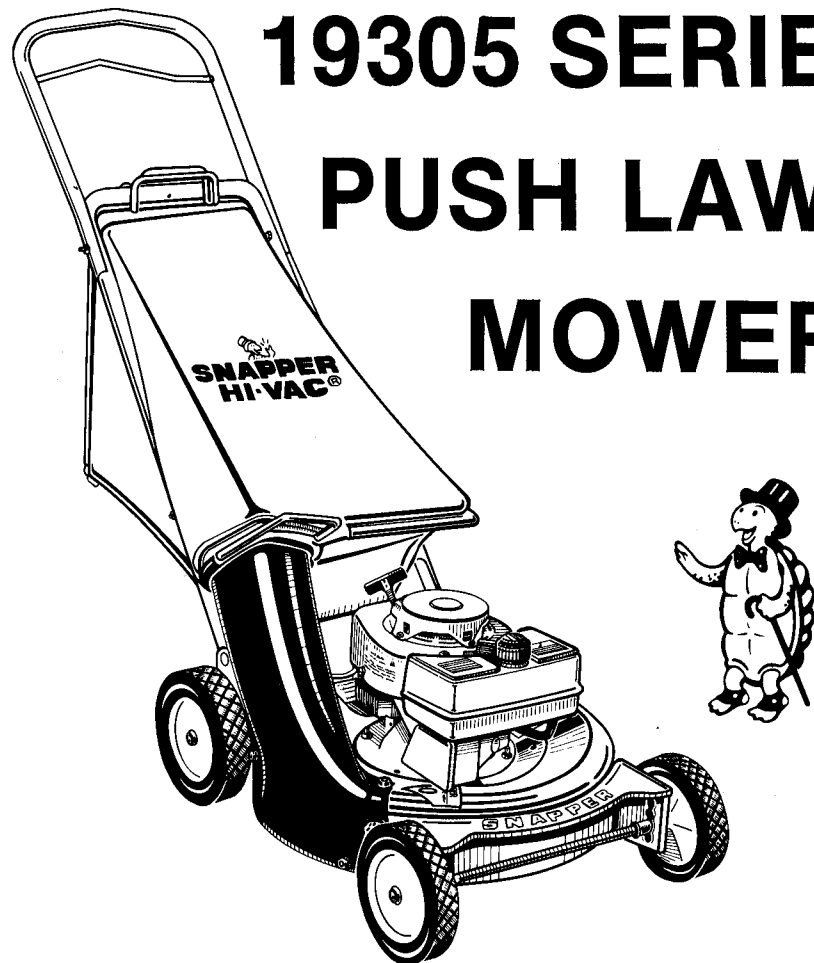


**Safety Instruction  
& Operators Manual  
for**

**SNAPPER®**

**19305 SERIES  
PUSH LAWN  
MOWERS**



***Thank you for buying a Snapper...***

*This manual covers the recommended operating and service procedures for Snapper 19" push mowers. Models with designation 19305-2 and 19305D-2 have two cycle engines while those designated 19305 and 19305D-2 have 4 cycle engines. The "D" suffix indicates that the mower has the side discharge chute while models without the "D" suffix have the grass catcher bag. Differences are pointed out wherever pertinent. Make sure that each person allowed to operate your mower reads and thoroughly understands the safety instructions on page 2 in this manual and also the instructions in the engine manual furnished with the mower. Refer to the back of this manual for the optional accessories.*

MANUAL 1-5699 (9/87)

**SNAPPER POWER EQUIPMENT**

McDonough, GA • 30253



# IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

**WARNING:** Failure to comply with the following instructions may result in serious injury to the operator or other persons. The owner of the mower must understand these instructions and, furthermore, must allow only persons who understand these instructions to operate the mower. Any person operating the mower must be of sound mind and body and must not be under the influence of any substance which might impair vision, dexterity, or judgement.

## TRAINING

1. Read this manual carefully and question your dealer if something is not clear. Should the dealer be unavailable or unable to answer to your satisfaction, write or call our Customer Service Department at the factory. Be thoroughly familiar with the controls and proper use of the equipment.
2. DO NOT allow children in yard when mower is operated.
3. DO NOT allow pre-teenage children to operate mower.
4. Only responsible teenagers with mature judgement shall be allowed to operate mower and only under close supervision.
5. Keep the area of operation clear of all persons, particularly small children, and pets.

## PREPARATION

1. Never operate mower without proper guards, plates, safety switches, or other safety protective devices in place and properly connected. Inspect to determine that these safety devices are installed properly, are in good repair, and operate properly. If the condition or operation of these devices are questionable, they must be repaired or replaced before using the mower.
2. Thoroughly inspect the area where the mower is to be used and remove all stones, sticks, wire, bones and other foreign objects. Also note the location of holes, stumps and other possible hazards.
3. Do not operate mower when barefoot or wearing open sandals. Always wear substantial footwear and long pants.
4. Fill gasoline tank before starting engine. Use approved gasoline container. Do not smoke near open gasoline container. Do not fill gasoline tank indoors or when engine is running. Allow engine to cool for at least ten minutes before refilling. Wipe off any spilled gasoline before starting engine. Do not run engine indoors.
5. Never attempt to make a wheel height adjustment while the engine is running.
6. When mowing over rough ground or in tall grass, mower must be set in highest cutting position.
7. Mow only in daylight or in good artificial light.
8. Never operate mower in wet grass. Always be sure of your footing; keep a firm hold on the handle and walk; never run.

## OPERATION

1. Do not change engine governor settings or overspeed engine.
2. Do not put hands or feet near or under rotating parts. Keep clear of discharge area while engine is running.
3. Stop engine when crossing gravel drives, walks or roads, and under any conditions where thrown objects might be a hazard.
4. After striking a foreign object or if mower vibrates abnormally, stop the engine, disconnect and secure spark plug wire. Inspect the mower for any damage and repair the damage.
5. STOP ENGINE before: Adjusting cutting height; clearing clogged grass; removing grass bag; placing hands or feet near blade housing or before making any adjustments, repairs or inspections.
6. Before cleaning, repairing or inspecting, make certain blade and all moving parts have stopped. Disconnect and secure spark plug wire away from plug to prevent accidental starting.
7. Stop engine and wait until the blade comes to complete stop before removing the grass bag and /or unclogging adapter.
8. Mow across steep slopes, never up-and-down. Exercise caution when changing directions on slopes. Do not mow excessively steep slopes.

## MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE

1. Keep all nuts, bolts, and screws tight to be sure mower is in safe operating condition.
2. Never store mower with gasoline in the tank inside of a building where fumes may reach an open flame or spark. Allow engine to cool before storing in any enclosure.
3. To reduce fire hazard keep mower free of grass, leaves, or excessive grease.
4. Check grass bag assembly frequently for wear or deterioration. Replace with new bag if loose seams or tears are evident. Replace slider or bag adapter if broken or cracked.
5. Have your mower inspected and serviced each year by an authorized Snapper dealer. Determine if any additional devices are available which might upgrade the safety of your mower.
6. Factory specified Snapper replacement parts must be used to assure adequate protection against injury.

# OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

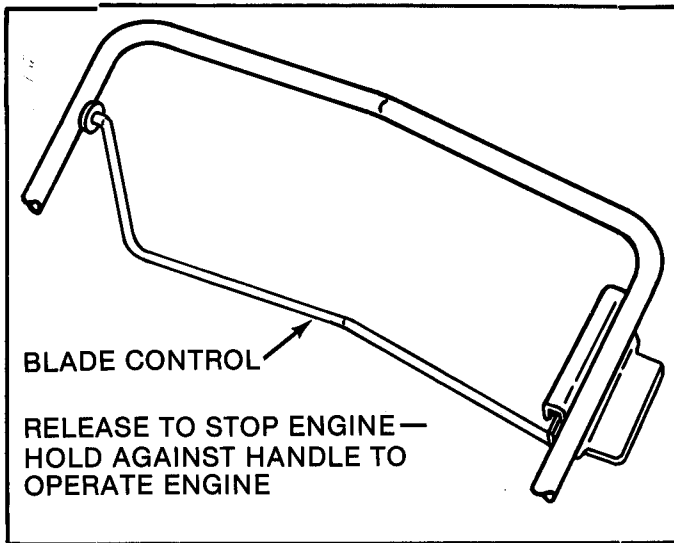


FIG. 1 -- LOCATION OF BLADE CONTROL

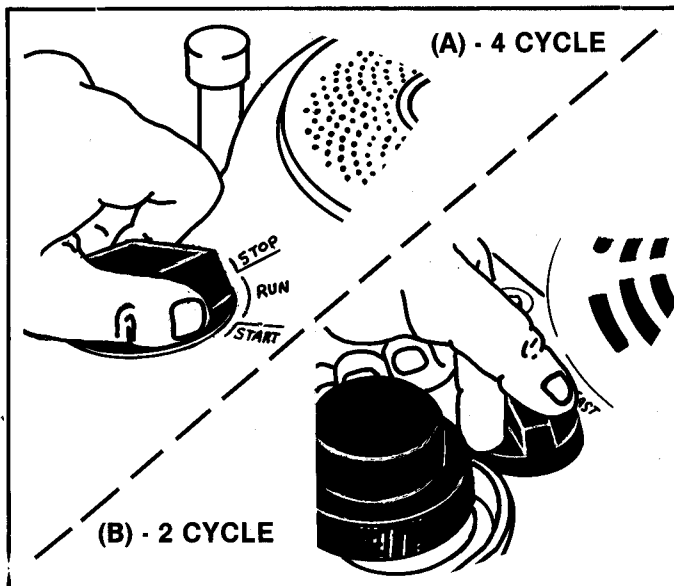


FIG. 2 -- LOCATION OF ENGINE CONTROLS

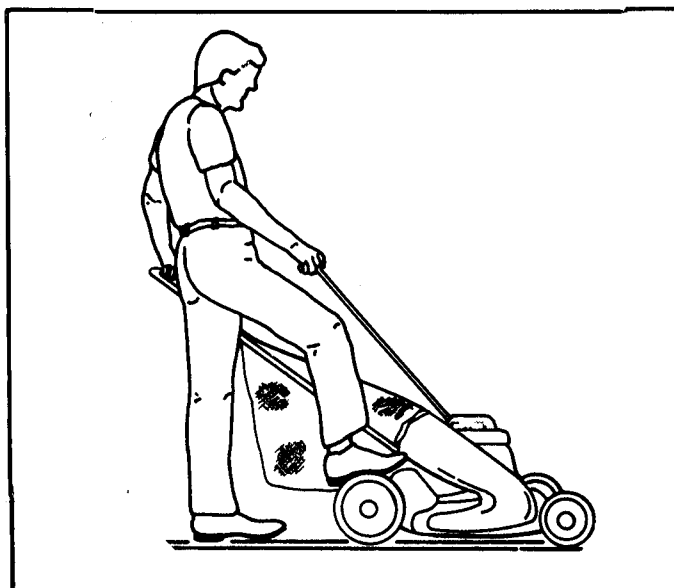


FIG. 3 -- STARTING STANCE (RIGHT SIDE)

## PRESTART CHECKS

Make the following checks and perform the stated services as required before each start-up.

CHECK to make sure all guards, grass bag and adapter or side discharge chute are in proper place and securely tightened.

CHECK external surfaces of mower and engine and remove any accumulation of dust, dirt, dried grass clippings, etc. Keep space between finned area of cylinder head and top of cutting deck clear and clean at all times.

CHECK oil level in engine (if 4 cycle) and add oil of weight and grade specified in engine manual to bring level up to full.

CHECK cutting height and readjust to desired height before starting. Refer to CUTTING HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT on page 4 for procedure.

FILL fuel tank with clean, fresh gasoline after pushing mower outdoors where fumes can be safely dissipated. On model with 2 cycle engine, mix oil in proper ratio to gasoline before filling.

## OPERATING PROCEDURE

For easier starting, move mower to an area where grass is short enough not to interfere with rotation of cutting blade. Before starting, (especially for the first time) know how to stop the engine quickly in the event of emergency. To stop the engine, release the BLADE CONTROL. NOTE: Your mower is equipped with an interlock to prevent starting if the grass bag adapter or side discharge chute are not properly installed on the mower - check this if engine will not start.

**STARTING & STOPPING:** Release BLADE CONTROL to stop engine. Use the following procedure to start the engine. The 2-cycle engine has a primer button — refer to the engine owners manual for priming instructions for these models. Refer to figure 3 for starting stance.

1. Move ENGINE CONTROL (see figure 2) to START on 4-cycle models or to FAST on 2-cycle models.
2. Hold BLADE CONTROL up to handle, place foot on tire with toe forward, bend at waist to reach starter rope.
3. Keep a firm grip on the handle and push foot against tire to prevent mower from rolling backward, pull rope as you straighten up to use your back more than your arm.
4. Repeat pulling rope until engine starts, guide rope slowly back to the engine and, holding blade control, move behind handle.
5. Push mower at a ground speed that is comfortable but slow enough to allow even cutting. To STOP, release BLADE CONTROL!

**NOTE: ENGINE MAY ALSO BE STOPPED BY MOVING ENGINE CONTROL TO STOP POSITION!**

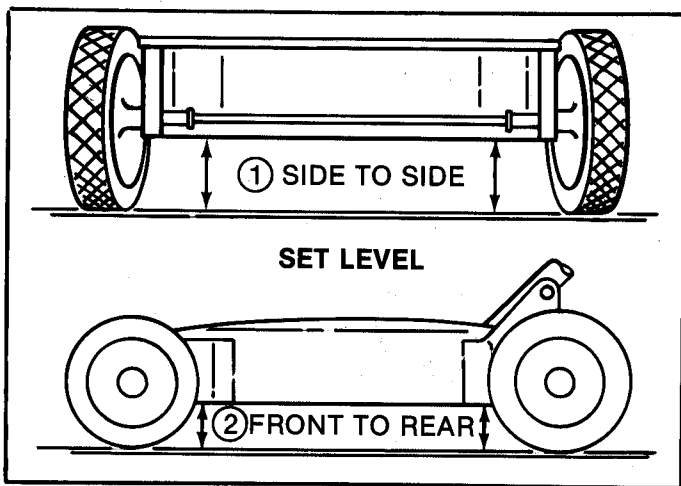


FIG. 4 -- MOWER DECK SETTING

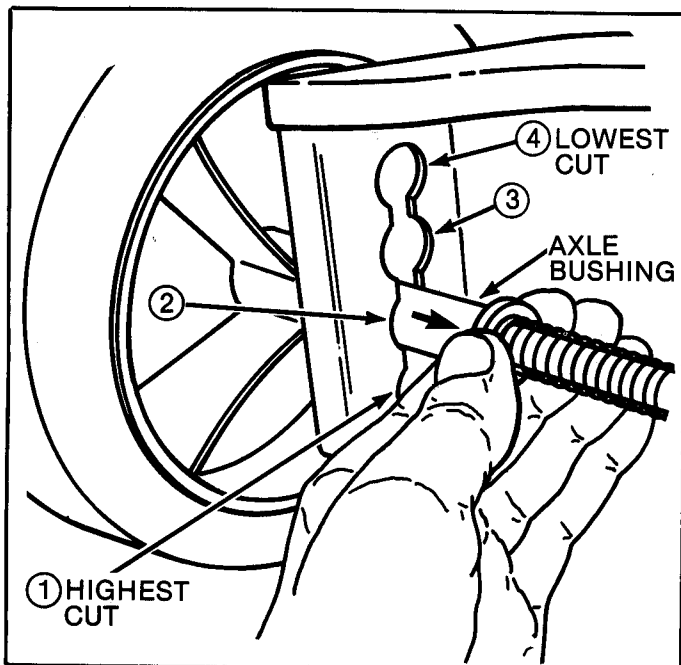


FIG. 5 -- CUTTING HEIGHT ADJUSTMENTS

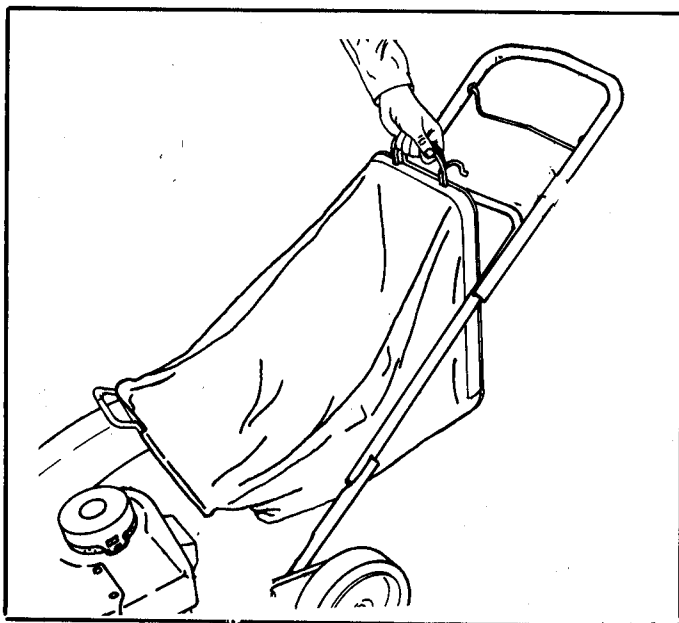


FIG. 6--INSTALLING GRASS CATCHER

## OPERATION (continued)

**MOWING HINTS:** The cutting deck should be level. As a general rule, never cut more than 1/3 off the height of the grass. If you want the grass shorter, wait a few days then recut to the lower height. If cut too short, the grass will use more energy for development of new leaf structure and less for a healthy root system and will be more subject to burning. On the other hand, if allowed to grow too long, the lower portion will be shaded and, as a result will discolor. In dry periods, allow the grass to grow longer than you normally would. Change your mowing pattern from time to time for a smoother cut lawn.

## CUTTING HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT

**WARNING:** To prevent injury, always STOP ENGINE by releasing the BLADE CONTROL before changing cutting height.

Positioning the axles in the lowest of the four adjustment positions in the wheel brackets raises the cutting deck to the highest cutting height which is about 3". The top position provides the lowest cut of about 1". Repositioning into the next height of cut position changes cutting height about 2/3rds of an inch.

Readjust cutting height with engine shut off as follows: To reposition front axle, push down on mower handles to raise front wheels off the ground then pull in on one of the spring loaded bushings until it clears the bracket, move to the desired height of cut position and release the bushing. Repeat procedure on bushing on other side of axle. When repositioning rear axle, lift handles to raise one of the rear wheels off ground then change axle position using same procedure as used on front axle. Repeat same procedure on other rear wheel. NOTE: Make sure axle bushings are firmly engaged and in the same height of cut position in the brackets on both sides of axle.

## GRASS CATCHER (19305, 19305-2)

To install the KWIK-N-EZY grass catcher on the mower, slide the connector down over the adapter flange then lower the support frame hooks onto the middle handle (see figure 6). When the catcher becomes full, stop engine and lift the support hooks up over the handle then lift the connector off and continue lifting while moving the catcher forward until the bag clears the mower (see figure 7). To empty the bag, raise the connector end up and release the handle of the door flap. Shake the catcher back and forth to dump the clippings. If the bag is too heavy to lift between handles, lower it to ground. If your mower does not have the KWIK-N-EZY, it is available in kit form. Refer to the accessory section.

(continued on page 5)

## OPERATION

### GRASS CATCHER (continued)

**TO EMPTY IN TRASH BAG:** Use the following procedure to empty clippings in trash bag. After removing catcher from mower, place connector end on ground, open door flap, slip trash bag over the catcher, turn catcher over so that large opening is down inside bag, lift catcher by connector and door handles and shake until clippings are dumped in the trash bag.

### HANDLE HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT

Handle height is adjustable to any point within a range of about five inches to provide the most comfortable position for you. With the engine stopped, set the cutting height in the position where you anticipate doing most of your mowing then loosen the two nuts securing the handles to the wheel brackets, move the handle to the desired position and securely tighten the two nuts.

### ADAPTER-SIDE CHUTE CHANGES

**WARNING:** To prevent injury, never operate mower without grass bag and adapter or the side discharge chute in place.

When changing from bagging to side discharge, remove the three locknuts and washers securing adapter to deck, pry the rear lower edge of the adapter away from the deck unit clear then remove adapter. Guide side chute into position over bolt on side of deck then over bolt extending from top of deck ensuring side chute slides under and lifts the interlock. Secure with two locknuts. Reverse procedure to remove side chute. To install adapter, guide adapter over stud on the rear side of deck, push adapter in from side over stud on top of the deck, then downward until adapter snaps into place over front side stud. NOTE: Flange of adapter must slide between interlock spring and deck to lift interlock contact point off deck. Secure with three locknuts and washers.

### STORAGE PROCEDURE

Take the following steps to prepare your mower for storage at the end of the mowing season. Refer to the engine manual for directions for preserving the engine. With the spark plug wire disconnected from plug and the mower turned with spark plug upward, thoroughly clean underside of deck. Scrape away accumulations of grass with putty knife and/or wire brush first, then wash down with water from a hose. CAUTION: Avoid spraying water into exhaust or air intake of engine while washing deck - tape openings closed to prevent this. Clean external surfaces of mower and allow to dry, then lubricate all exposed metal surfaces with a light coat of oil to prevent corrosion. Make sure grass bag is completely emptied to prevent decay and formation of mold inside the bag while in storage. The grass bag may be washed in detergent but allow it to dry thoroughly after washing. Store mower during off season in storage shed or dry area protected from weather.

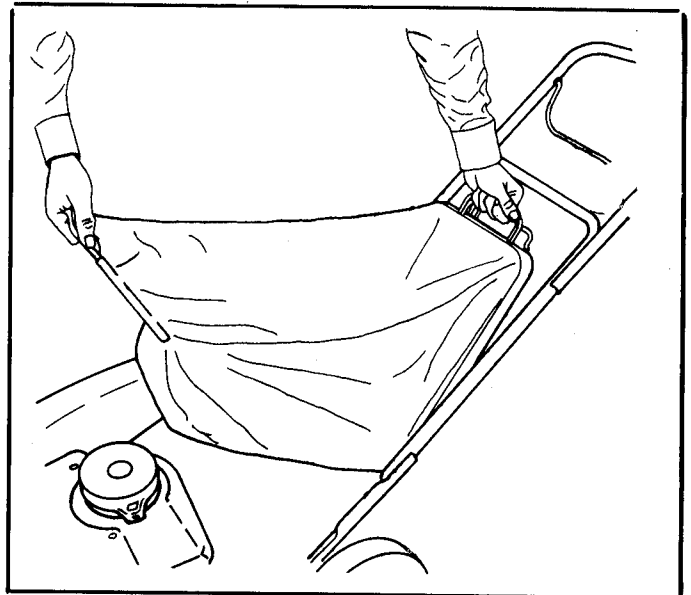


FIG. 7--REMOVING GRASS CATCHER

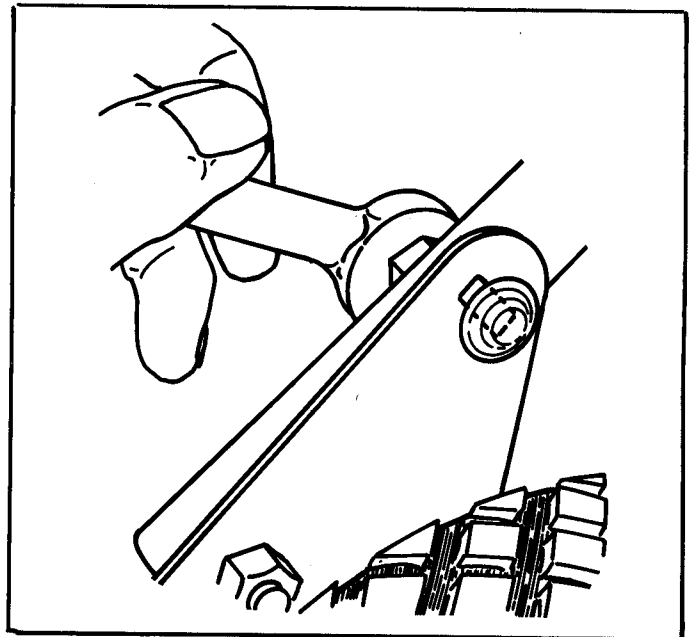


FIG. 8 -- HANDLE HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT

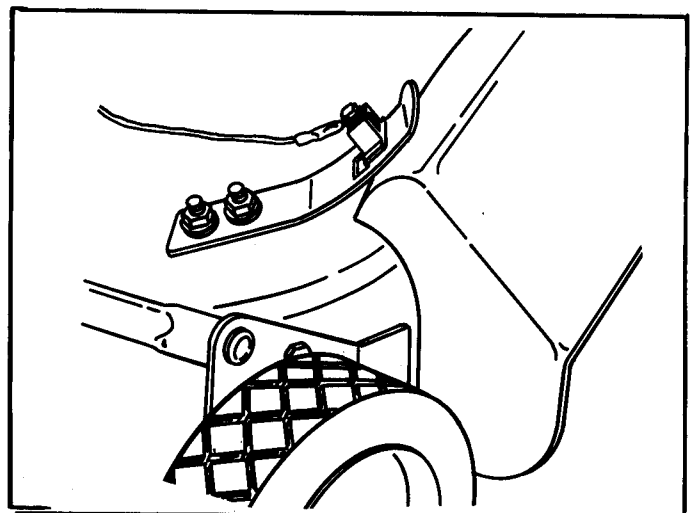


FIG. 9--INTERLOCK DETAIL

# SERVICE

The mower itself requires very little service, however, it is very important that the engine be serviced at the intervals specified in the engine manual furnished with your mower. When performing any service on the mower, always disconnect the spark plug wire from the spark plug to prevent unintentional starting. When tipping the mower to work on the underside, always tilt with spark plug up to prevent flooding the engine with gasoline or oil which would cause hard starting after servicing. NOTE: If engine will not start, check bag adapter or side chute to determine that either item is properly positioned on mower.

## SERVICE ASSISTANCE-REPLACEMENT PARTS

To maintain the original quality of your mower, use Genuine Snapper Replacement Parts only. To obtain the correct part for your particular mower, always specify model and serial number as found on name plate. Contact your Snapper Dealer for parts and service assistance. We recommend returning your mower to an authorized Snapper Dealer once each year for inspection and addition of any new devices which might upgrade the safety of your mower. For the nearest Snapper Dealer, check the Yellow Pages of your telephone directory under the heading LAWN MOWERS. For engine parts or service, check for the engine dealer under the heading ENGINES-gasoline.

## DECK SERVICE

To prolong the life and efficiency of your mower, keep the underside of deck clean and free of accumulated grass clippings by washing it down with a hose and/or scraping with a wire brush and scraper. Make sure this is done at the end of the cutting season before placing the mower in storage.

## CUTTING BLADE SERVICE

**CAUTION:** Before checking or doing any work on the blade, disconnect the spark plug wire and secure it away from the plug to prevent unintentional starting.

**CHECK** at frequent intervals to make sure the blade is securely tightened and that it is in good condition.

**REPLACE** blade if badly chipped, bent, out of balance or as soon as notch starts wearing in the tip between the flat surface and upturned lift as depicted in View B, Figure 10. This type wear pattern occurs more rapidly under sandy soil conditions. **CAUTION:** Never operate the mower with blade worn to the extent shown in View C as the tip could fly off causing personal injury or property damage.

**SHARPEN** blade when the cutting edges become dull if the blade is in otherwise good condition. When dull the grass cut ends will be ragged and usually turn brown soon after mowing. For best results, remove the blade and sharpen it on a grinding wheel at an angle of 22 to 28 degrees. The cutting surface should extend in about 2½" from the tips. Check the blade after sharpening to determine that it is still balanced. It will cause excessive vibration if unbalanced. **BE CAREFUL TO AVOID CUTTING YOURSELF ON SHARP BLADE!**

**INSTALL** sharpened or replacement blade with components in same sequence as removed. The widest part of the cone washer goes next to the underside of blade. Make sure that the turned-up rims in the center the blade fit over the edges of the blade drive hub when installing. Do not substitute any components here. Tighten the blade retaining capscrew to 20-30 foot pounds torque valve.

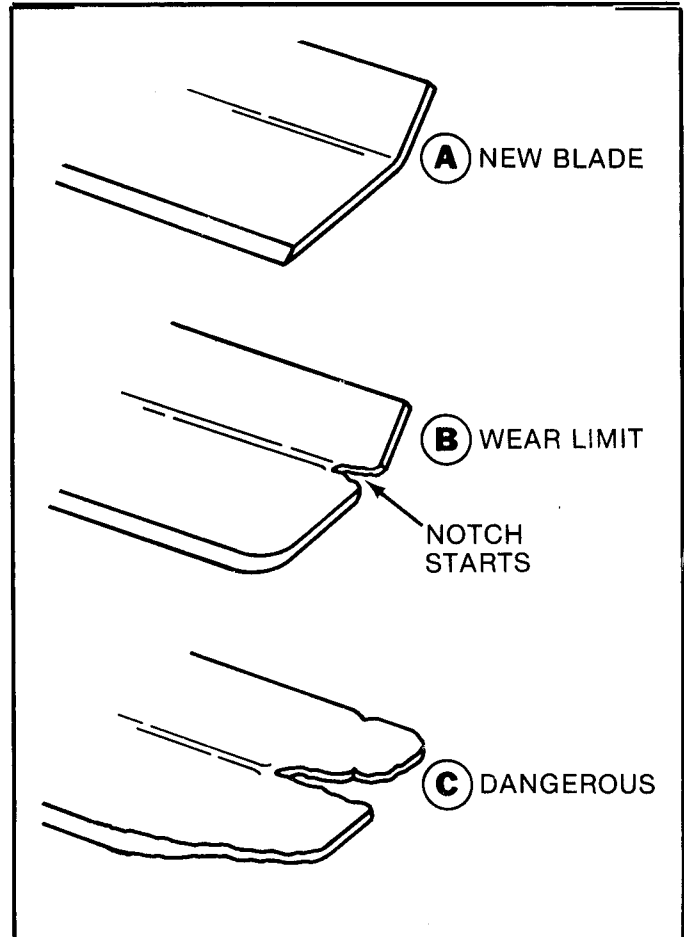


FIG. 10 -- BLADE WEAR PATTERNS

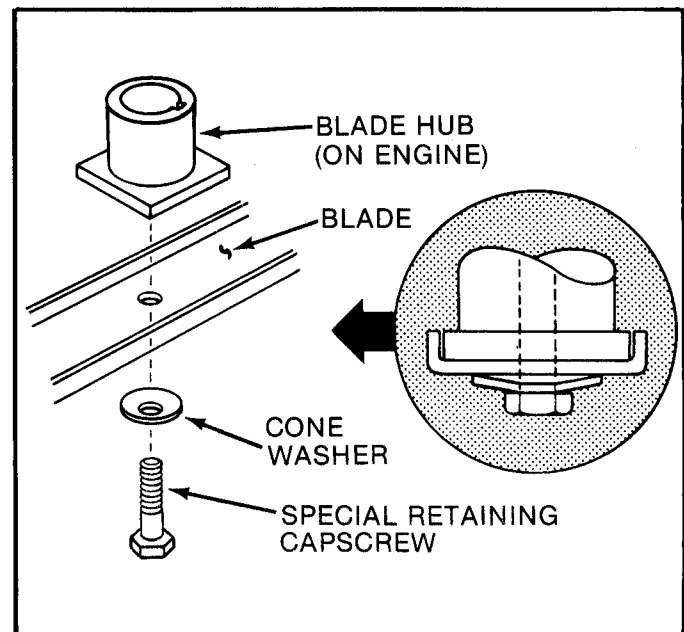
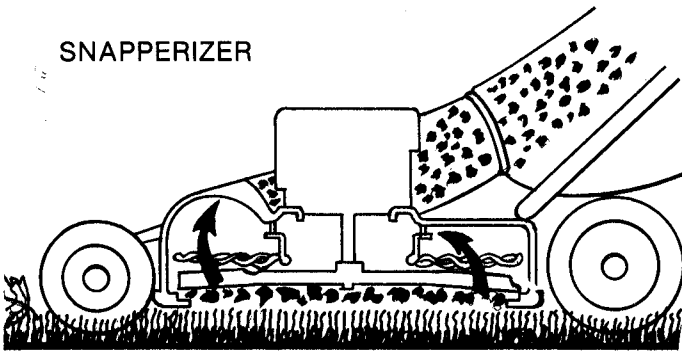


FIG. 11 -- BLADE RETENTION DETAIL

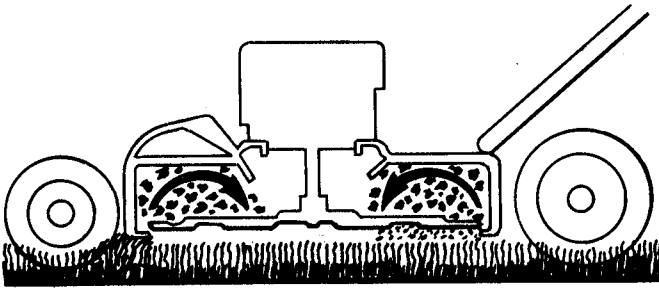


## POPULAR ACCESSORIES

SNAPPERIZER



MULCHERIZER



Depending on how your mower is originally equipped, it can be converted to perform other lawn care duties with the kits described below. These kits are available from your Snapper Dealer.

**SNAPPERIZER KIT:** Converts mower into an outdoor vacuum and shredder to broadcast shredded clippings and leaves with side discharge chute or for bagging with the grass catcher.

**MULCHERIZER KIT:** Converts mower into effective mower/mulcher to cut and chop the grass before blowing clippings directly into the lawn as nutritive mulch.

**GRASS CATCHER BAG KIT:** If your mower is equipped with side discharge chute, it can be converted for bagging operation whenever desired with a grass bag kit.

**SIDE CHUTE KIT:** If your mower is equipped with the grass catcher, it can be quickly converted to side discharge with a side chute kit to broadcast clippings and eliminate bagging whenever desired, and to quickly convert back to bagging operation.

## MANUFACTURER'S 2 YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

For two (2) Years from purchase date for the original purchaser's residential, non-commercial use [ninety (90) days from purchase date for the original purchaser's commercial, rental, or other non-residential use], SNAPPER POWER EQUIPMENT, through any SNAPPER dealer will replace, free of charge, any part or parts found upon examination by the factory at McDonough, Georgia, to be defective in material or workmanship or both.

All transportation cost incurred by the purchaser in submitting material to a SNAPPER dealer for replacement under this warranty must be borne by the purchaser.

This warranty does not apply to engines and their components, as these items are warranted separately by their manufacturers, and does not apply to batteries which are covered separately. This warranty does not apply to parts that have been damaged by accident, alteration, abuse, improper lubrication, normal wear, or other cause beyond our control.

There is no other express warranty.

Implied warranties, including those of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, are limited to two (2) years from purchase date for the original purchaser's residential, non-commercial use [ninety (90) days from purchase for the original purchaser's commercial, rental or other non-residential use], and to the extent permitted by law any and all implied warranties are excluded. This is the exclusive remedy. Liabilities for consequential damages, under any and all warranties are excluded.

Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, or do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

**WARNING: THE USE OF REPLACEMENT PARTS OTHER THAN GENUINE SNAPPER PARTS MAY IMPAIR THE SAFETY OF SNAPPER PRODUCTS AND WILL VOID ANY LIABILITY AND WARRANTY BY SNAPPER ASSOCIATED WITH THE USE OF SUCH PARTS.**

**IMPORTANT:** Please fill out the attached SNAPPER Product Registration Card immediately and mail to: SNAPPER POWER EQUIPMENT, McDONOUGH, GEORGIA 30253