

Safety Instructions, Installation & Operator's Manual For

SNAPPER®

**#6-3131 CLAMSHELL GRASS CATCHER KIT FOR
SNAPPER 33" LAWN TRACTORS,
1999 SERIES "D" & LATER**



IMPORTANT!

1999 LAWN TRACTOR SERIAL NUMBER
BEGINS WITH "9" AND TRACTOR MUST BE
EQUIPPED WITH CAST IRON FRONT AXLE.

SNAPPER® McDonough, GA., 30253 U.S.A.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS



WARNING



All safety instructions and operating instructions in the manuals provided with the Snapper Lawn Tractor and this Grass Catcher attachment must be followed. Read, understand, and follow ALL instructions and warnings in the Operator's Manual provided with this machine, with the attachment, and ALL instructions and warnings on the machine, engine and attachment. Failure to comply with ALL instructions and warnings can result in damage, serious injury or death to the operator or other persons.

- 1) DO NOT allow children or others in the yard when the machine is operated (even with the blades off).
- 2) DO NOT allow children or others to ride on the machine or attachment (even with the blades off).
- 3) DO NOT allow children to operate the machine.
- 4) DO NOT operate blades in reverse. STOP blades. LOOK and SEE behind and down for children, pets, and hazards before and while backing.
- 5) FRONT WEIGHT (Bumper Kit), provided with this kit, must be installed before operating machine with grass catcher.
- 6) DO NOT operate machine on slopes exceeding 10 degrees (18% grade) when equipped with grass catcher.
- 7) Exercise EXTREME CAUTION on all slopes. Turn blades off when traveling uphill. Use a slow speed and avoid sudden or sharp turns.
- 8) DO NOT operate machine across face of slopes. Operate up and down. Practice on slopes with blades off.
- 9) AVOID uphill starts. If machine stops going up hill or tires lose traction, turn blades OFF and back slowly down the slope.
- 10) GRASS CATCHER COMPONENTS are subject to deterioration during normal use. Inspect all components frequently for signs of wear or deterioration. Replace worn or damaged components immediately.
- 11) DO NOT leave machine with engine running. STOP engine, STOP blades, SET brake, and REMOVE key before leaving operator's position for any reason.
- 12) DO NOT attempt to remove or unclog the grass catcher with engine or blades running. Stop engine and blades and make sure all rotating components have come to a complete stop before removing any catcher component or attempting to unclog catcher or deck.
- 13) DO NOT operate machine with Clamshell Catcher open. The catcher must be closed at all times, unless dumping. STOP blades before dumping grass catcher.

! IMPORTANT !

INSTALL CLAMSHELL CATCHER ON 1999 SERIES "D" AND LATER
MODEL LAWN TRACTORS ONLY. LAWN TRACTOR MUST BE
EQUIPPED WITH CAST IRON FRONT AXLE.


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SECTION 1 – ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

INTRODUCTION

The #6-3131 Clamshell Grass Catcher kit fits Snapper Lawn Tractors, 1999 Series “D” and later models, equipped with 33” decks and Cast Iron Front Axles. Use the following instructions to assemble the Grass Catcher components and prepare your machine for collecting grass clippings and leaves. Follow and complete each step carefully.



WARNING



DO NOT attempt any adjustments, maintenance or service with the engine running. STOP engine. STOP blade. Engage parking brake. Remove key. Remove spark plug wire from spark plug and secure wire away from spark plug. Engine and components are HOT. Avoid serious burns, allow all parts to cool before working on machine.

STEP 1

RIGHT AND LEFT BUMPER BRACKET INSTALLATION

- A. Remove right rear Seat Support bolt. See Figure 1.1. **Note:** Removal of rear tires is not required to complete Bracket installation.

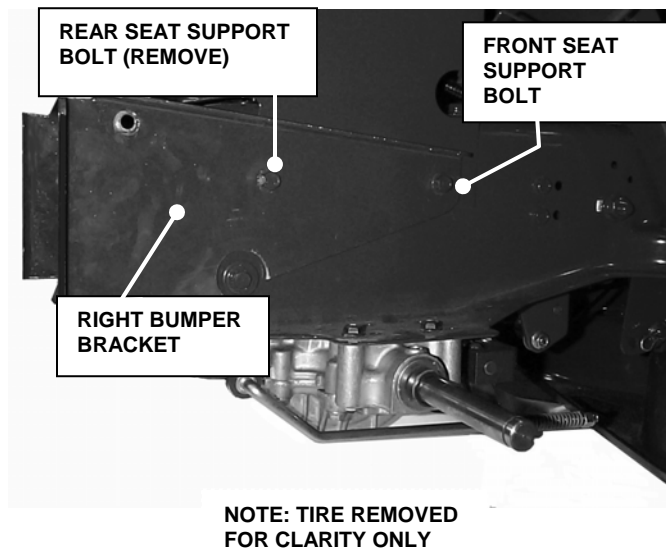


FIGURE 1.1

- B. Loosen Only – right front Seat Support bolt. Back bolt out only enough to allow the slotted hole in the right Bumper Bracket to slip under head of bolt.
- C. With front Seat Support bolt in slotted hole, align rear hole in Bracket and reinstall rear Seat Support bolt. Tighten bolts securely.
- D. Series “F” and Later models Only: Place (1) 5/16-18 hex nut on each right Seat Support bolt and tighten securely against inside of frame.
- E. Repeat for left Bumper Bracket.

STEP 2

RIGHT AND LEFT BUMPER SUPPORT INSTALLATION

- A. Install Rear Bumper and right Bumper Support to the right Bumper Bracket. Align holes in Bumper Support, Bumper and Bumper Bracket. Insert (2) 5/16-18 x 1-3/4” Flange Lock bolts and secure with (2) 5/16-18 Flange Lock nuts. **Do Not tighten at this time.** See Figure 1.2.

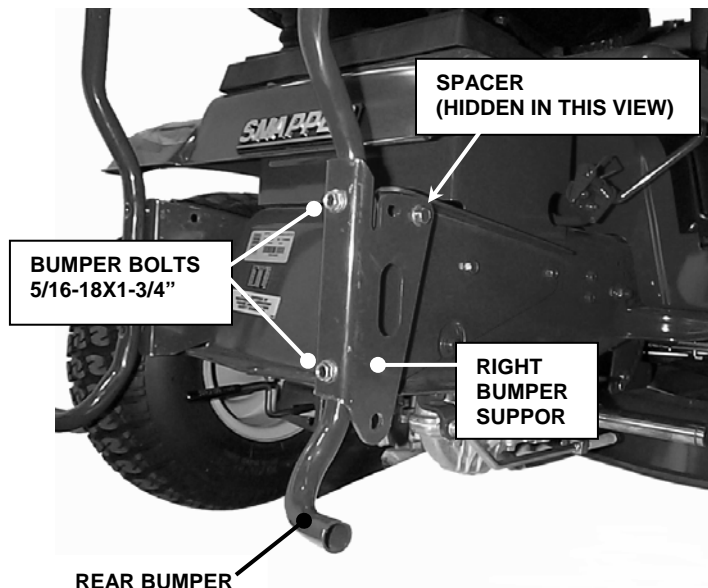


FIGURE 1.2

- B. Insert Spacer (P/N 7-3272) between right Bumper Bracket and Bumper Support. Align holes and insert (1) 5/16-18 x 1-3/4” Flange Lock bolt and secure with (1) 5/16-18 Flange Lock hex nut. **Do Not tighten at this time.** See Figure 1.2.
- C. Install left Bumper Support to the left Bumper Bracket. Align bottom hole in Bumper with hole in Bumper Bracket. Insert (1) 5/16-18 x 1-3/4” Flange Lock bolt and secure with (1) 5/16-18 Flange Lock hex nut. **Do not tighten at this time.** Align hole in left Bumper Support with top hole on Rear Bumper as shown and insert (1) 5/16-18 x 1-3/4” Flange Lock bolt. Secure with (1) 5/16-18 Flange Lock hex nut. **Do not tighten at this time.** See Figure 1.3.

SECTION 1 – ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

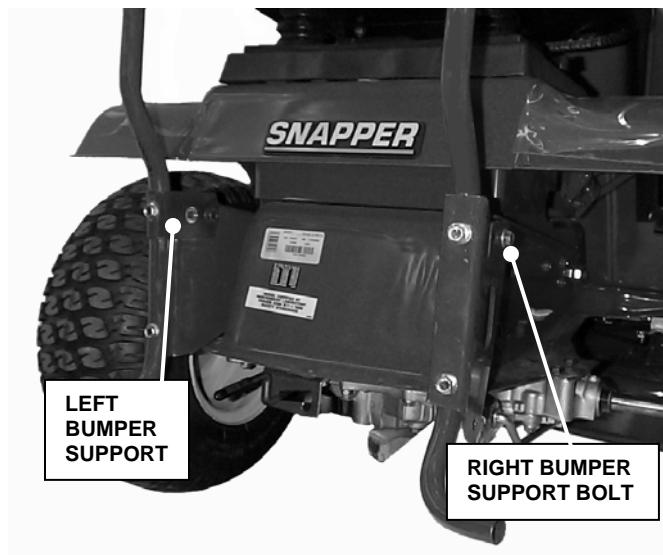


FIGURE 1.3

- D. Align slotted hole in left Bumper Support with hole in Bumper Bracket and insert (1) 5/16-18 x 1-3/4" Flange Lock bolt. Tighten (4) Bumper bolts securely. Place 5/16-18 Flange Lock hex nut on left Bumper Support bolt and tighten securely. Tighten right Bumper Support bolt securely. See Figure 1.3.

STEP 3

HITCH PLATE AND BAFFLE

- A. Attach triangular shaped Hitch Plate to bottom of Front Cover Assembly. Orientation of the holes in the Hitch Plate is important, observe picture carefully before assembling. Align holes in Hitch Plate and Front Cover Frame. Insert (2) 5/16-18 x 5/8" Flange Lock hex bolts and secure with (2) 5/16-18 Flange Lock hex nuts. **Do not tighten at this time.** See Figure 1.4.

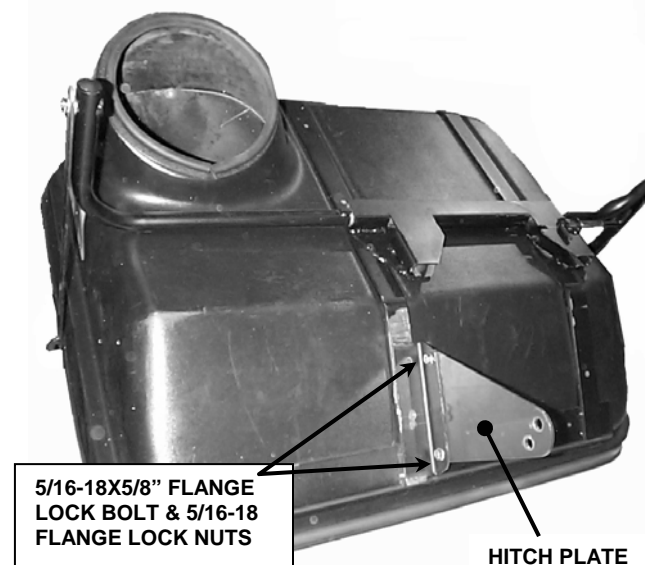


FIGURE 1.4

- B. Place Front Cover Assembly over rear Bumper and secure in place with spring loaded Latch. See Figure 1.5.

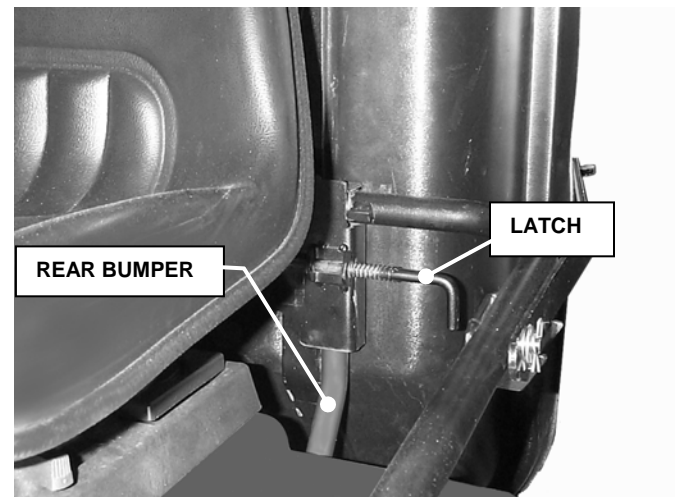


FIGURE 1.5

- C. Align hole in Hitch Plate with hole in Bumper Support. Insert (1) 1/2-13 x 1" hex bolt through holes with head on inside of Bumper Support. Place (1) 1/2" Internal Tooth Lock washer and (1) 1/2-13 hex nut on bolt (washer and nut on outside) and tighten securely. See Figure 1.6.
- D. Tighten Hitch Plate bolts that were left loose in STEP 3, "A".
- E. Attach left end of baffle to Front Cover. Place (1) 3/16" Flat Washer over #10-24 x 3/4" Flange Lock Bolt and insert from inside cover. Secure with (1) #10-24 Flange Lock Nut. Tighten nut securely.

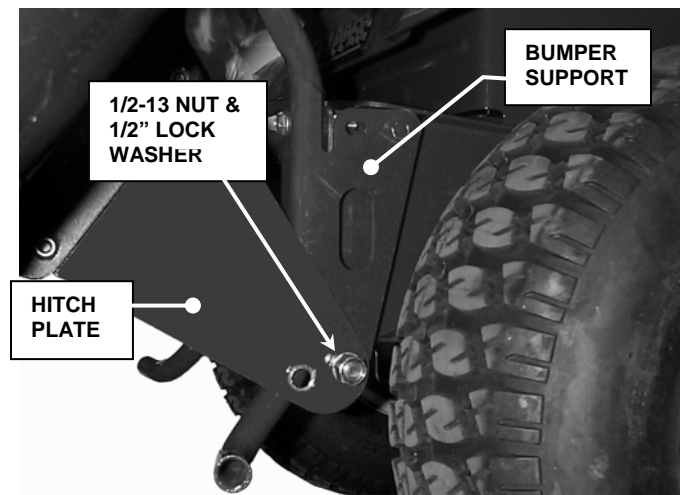


FIGURE 1.6

SECTION 1 – ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 4

HINGE PIVOT BOLT INSTALLATION

- A. Place Rear Cover Assembly on Front Cover Assembly aligning holes in left Hinge Tabs. Place one 3/8" flat washer between the two Hinge Tabs and insert 3/8-16 x 1" hex bolt. See Figure 1.7. Add 3/8" flat washer and secure with 3/8-16 Top Lock hex nut. Do not over tighten. Hinge must pivot freely.
- B. Repeat on right Hinge Tabs.

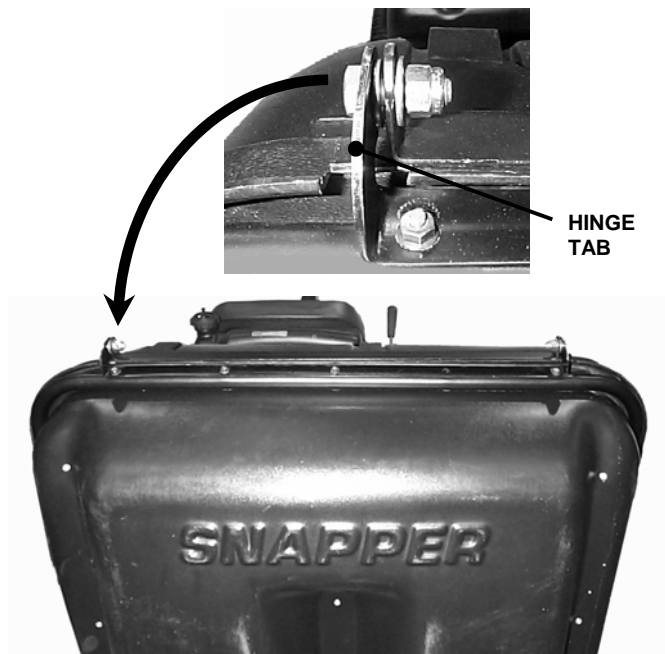


FIGURE 1.7

STEP 5

HINGE ADJUSTMENT, REAR COVER

The holes in the rear Hinge Plate are slotted and adjustment may be required to insure a proper seal between the front and rear Covers.

- A. Insert hook on the right Rear Cover Assembly into round hole in right Handle Link. **Note:** Right Handle Link is flat, no bend. See Figure 1.8.

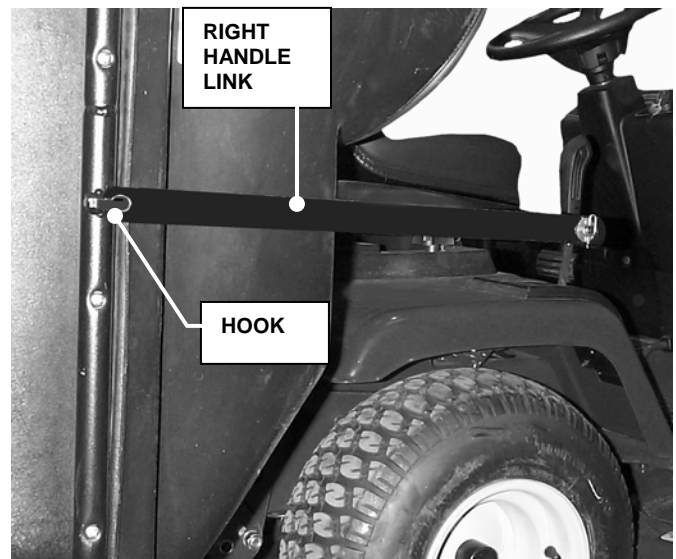


FIGURE 1.8

- B. Place one 3/8" flat washer over stud on right of Handle Tube.
- C. Insert stud into center hole of right Handle Link. Add another 3/8" flat washer over stud and secure with hair pin. See Figure 1.9. **NOTE:** The right and left Handle Links contain 3 closely spaced holes to adjust the amount of force required to close and latch the Grass Catcher. To increase the closing force and provide a tighter seal between the front and rear covers, place stud in rear hole. To decrease the force, place stud in front hole.

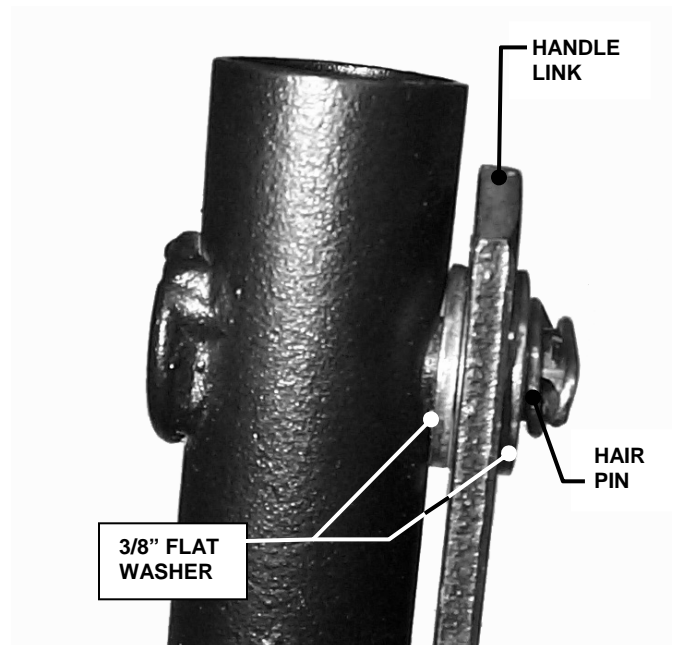


FIGURE 1.9

SECTION 1 – ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

- D. Repeat procedure for left Handle Link.
- E. Close catcher by pushing down on Handle.
- F. Actuate Catcher Handle. Catcher should open and close smoothly with no binding. If the action is not smooth, adjustment to the hinge or handle links may be required.

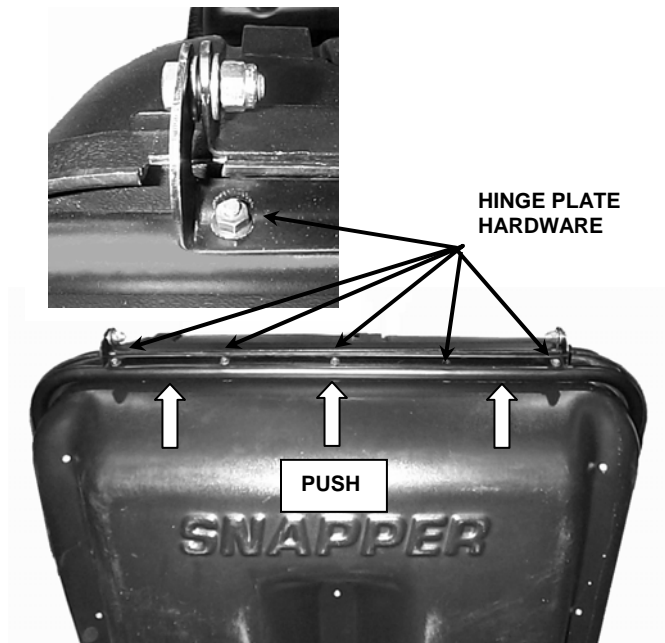


FIGURE 1.10

- G. If hinge adjustment is required, loosen hinge plate hardware. For a tighter seal, push top of rear cover frame firmly against the Front Cover Assembly. Tighten hinge plate hardware securely. See Figure 1.10.

WARNING
The LT Bumper Kit, 6-3123, must be installed before operating machine with Grass Catcher.

STEP 6

LT FRONT BUMPER KIT, #6-3123, INSTALLATION

The weight of the Clamshell Grass Catcher and contents affects the stability and handling of the machine. The Front Bumper Kit must be installed prior to operating the machine with the catcher installed. Failure to install the Bumper Kit could cause damage, serious injury or death. The Bumper Kit, included with this Grass Catcher Kit, comes with instructions and all of the hardware required to complete installation. Follow and complete each step carefully.

STEP 7

AIR LIFT KIT, #6-0480, INSTALLATION

Some Lawn Tractor models will not require the installation of the Air Lift Kit included with the Grass Catcher. Inspect the blade on your mower. If the blade does not have mounting holes for the Air Lift Kit, the blade is a High Lift version and does not require the kit. If the blade does have the holes in the lift area of the blade, install the Lift Kit. Installation instructions and the necessary hardware are included with the Air Lifts.

WARNING
Blades are extremely sharp and can cause severe injuries. Wear heavy gloves when working on or handling blades. DO NOT use blades that show signs of wear or damage.

WARNING
DO NOT operate machine without entire Grass Catcher or guards in place.

STEP 8

DECK ADAPTER INSTALLATION

The Discharge Deflector will have to be removed to install the Deck Adapter. Be careful to save the Deflector and all hardware removed for future use when not bagging.

- A. Remove wing nuts, flat washers and bolts securing Deflector to side of deck. Save hardware. See Figure 1.11.

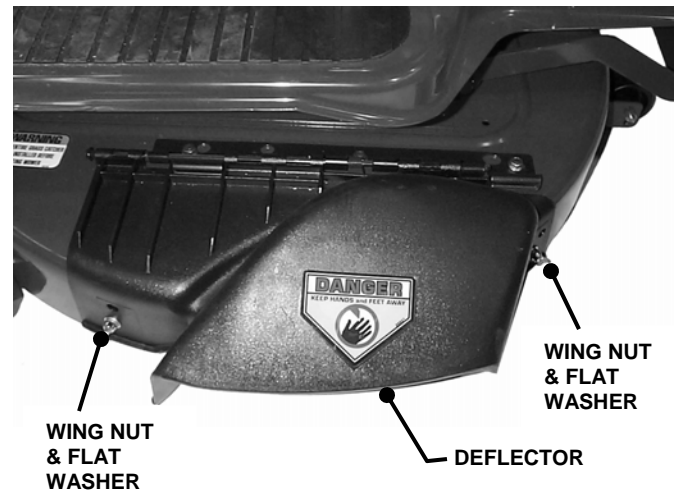


FIGURE 1.11

SECTION 1 – ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

- B. Remove Hinge nut, Spring, and Hinge Pin. Remove Deflector. Save for future use. See Figure 1.12.

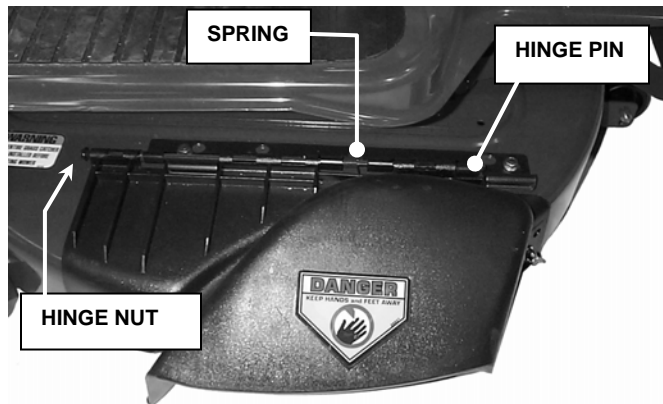


FIGURE 1.12

- C. Hold the Adapter in front of the deck. Align the Adapter Lugs with the Lug Retainers in the Hinge. Push or lightly tap front of Adapter towards the rear until tight against deck. See Figure 1.13.

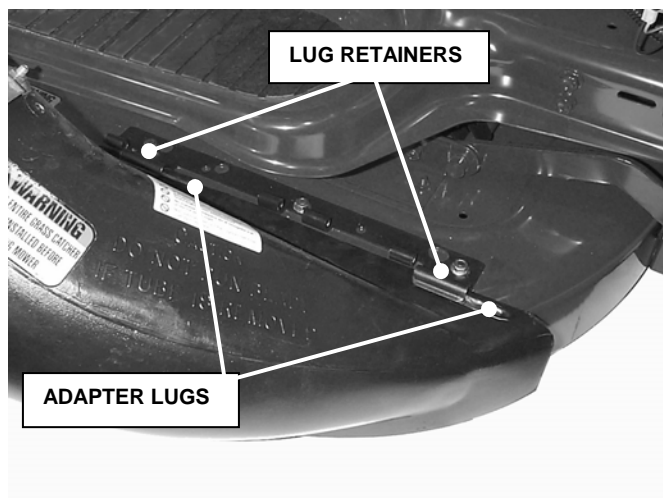


FIGURE 1.13

- D. Install one of the previously removed bolts into the hole in the center of the discharge opening and through the hole in the Adapter. Secure the Adapter to the deck with a flat washer and wing nut. See Figure 1.14.

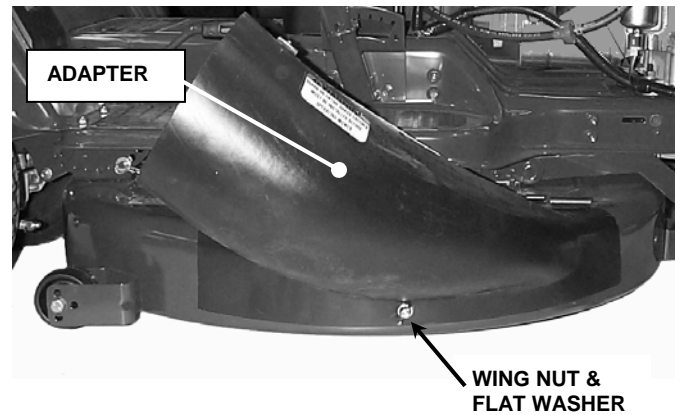


FIGURE 1.14

- D. Attach Tube Latch to Adapter. Insert one 1/4-20 x 3/4" Carriage bolt from inside through upper hole in Adapter. Place Tube Latch over bolt, followed by 1/4" Internal Tooth lock washer and secure with 1/4-20 hex nut. Align Tube Latch as shown and tighten securely. See Figure 1.15.

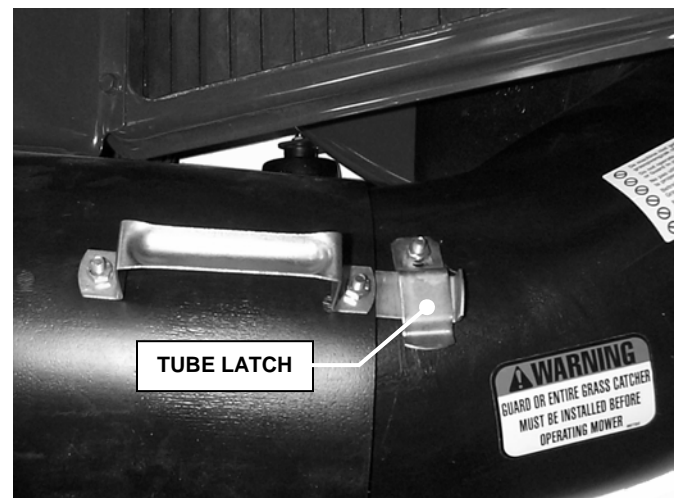


FIGURE 1.15

STEP 9 GRASS TUBE INSTALLATION

- A. Attach Tube Handle and Handle Base to Tube before installing Tube to catcher. Insert (2) 1/4-20 x 3/4" Carriage bolts through Handle Base and holes in Tube as shown. See Figure 1.16. Place Tube Handle over bolts followed by 1/4" Internal Tooth lock washers and secure with (2) 1/4-20 hex nuts. Tighten securely.

SECTION 1 – ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

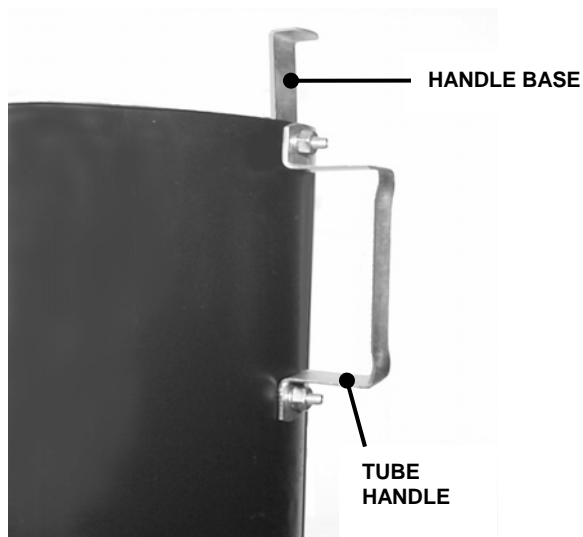


FIGURE 1.16

- B.** Place deck in lowest cutting height setting.
- C.** Slide upper end of Grass Tube (end without Handle) into opening in Front Cover Assembly.
- D.** Slide lower end of Grass Tube over adapter and rotate towards mower to secure Handle Base under Latch. See Figure 1.17.
- E.** Adjust deck to desired cutting height.



FIGURE 1.17

SECTION 2 – OPERATION & MAINTENANCE

INTRODUCTION

Follow operation and maintenance instructions in the Operator's Manual provided with the Snapper Lawn Tractor.


2.1 GRASS CATCHER OPERATION

- A. Select desired cutting height. Choose a setting that will not attempt to cut off too much at once, overloading the machine.
- B. After starting engine and allowing a brief warm up period, move engine speed control to highest setting.
- C. Drive machine to cutting area. Engage blades.
- D. Select a slow forward ground speed until familiar with conditions. Do not select a speed that is too fast, causing the machine to become overloaded.
- E. The weight of the grass catcher and contents will affect the stability and handling of the machine. Avoid sudden starts and sharp turns. Reduce speed on slopes, and DO NOT operate machine on slopes exceeding 10 degrees (18% grade). Operate machine up and down slopes. DO NOT operate machine across the face of slopes. Turn blades off when traveling up slope.
- F. Empty grass catcher often to minimize effect on stability and handling. Over filling the catcher will reduce performance and cause clogging of the tube, adapter and deck.
- G. Do not operate the machine with the Grass Catcher open. The entire Grass Catcher must be installed, the catcher closed and latched properly before operating.


2.2 EMPTYING GRASS CATCHER

- A. Empty Grass Catcher often to avoid overfilling. Overfilling reduces performance and causes clogging of tube, adapter and deck.
- B. Turn blades off. Drive machine to location the clippings are to be dumped. DO NOT operate blades in reverse. If you must back machine to dump clippings in desired location, LOOK and SEE behind and down for children, pets and hazards before and while backing.
- C. Shift transmission to Neutral (N). Set Park Brake. Stop engine.
- D. Lift up on handle sufficiently to allow all clippings to exit catcher. If the dumped pile is too high to allow the catcher to close, you may be required to use a rake or similar implement to distribute the clippings.
- E. After dumping, to maintain peak performance, check the catcher screen located on the inside of the Rear Cover Assembly to make sure it is clean and free of any build up. Clean as required with brush or broom.

- F. Close catcher. Push down firmly on handle to insure it is properly latched.
- G. Re-start engine and drive machine to cutting area. Set engine speed to highest setting, engage blades and resume operation.



WARNING



DO NOT attempt to remove any clogs from deck, adapter, or tube with engine or blade running. STOP engine. STOP blade. SET brake. Remove key. Make sure blade and all rotating components have come to a complete stop before removing any catcher or unclogging any catcher component.

2.3 IF THE GRASS CATCHER BECOMES CLOGGED

The grass catcher may become plugged if the conditions are too severe, the catcher is overfilled, or the machine is used improperly. If plugging does occur, attempt the following:

- 1. Empty catcher more often.
- 2. Clean screen on rear cover assembly.
- 3. Ground speed too fast – cut at slower speed
- 4. Removing too much grass – raise cutting height, cut partial width, and cut lawn more frequently.
- 5. Grass is too wet from rain or dew – allow grass to dry.
- 6. Blades are dull or worn – inspect blades and replace as necessary. Use only genuine SNAPPER replacement blades.
- 7. Mower equipped with incorrect blade. Catcher operation requires high lift blade. Contact your local SNAPPER dealer for assistance in choosing the correct blade for your application.
- 8. Deck, adapter, or tube has clipping build up – clean all clippings from all internal surfaces.

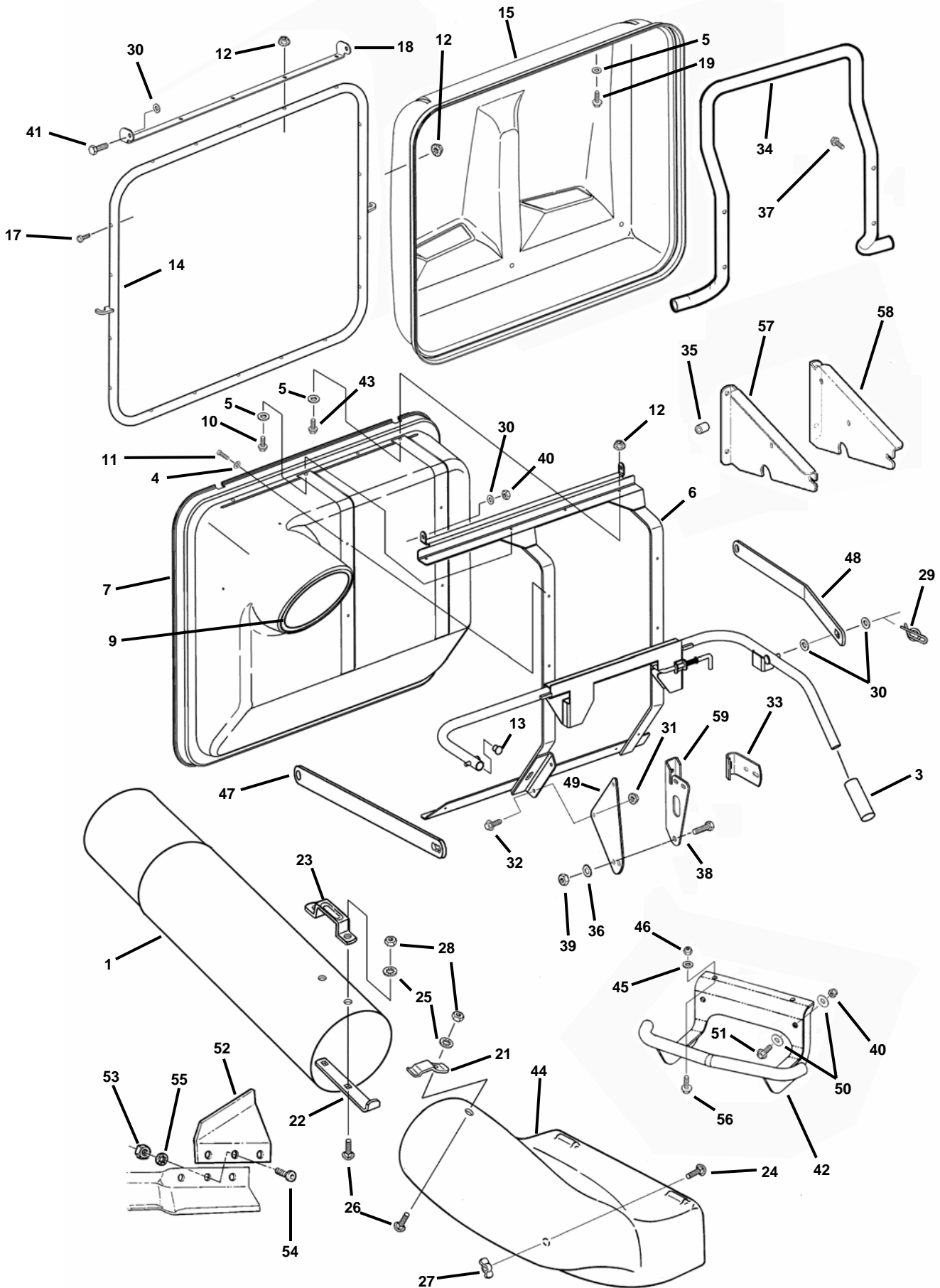
2.4 GRASS CATCHER MAINTENANCE

Grass Catcher components are subject to wear and deterioration during normal usage. Inspect all components frequently for signs of wear and deterioration. Replace worn or damaged components immediately.

BEFORE EACH USE

- A. Inspect all Catcher components. Replace all worn or damaged parts.
- B. Clean grass build up from deck, adapter, grass tube, covers and rear cover screen. To maintain peak performance make sure screen is clean at each dumping.
- C. Inspect blade for wear or damage. Replace as needed.
- D. Perform pre-start check list and maintenance as instructed in the SNAPPER Lawn Tractor Operator's Manual and Engine Owner's Manual included with the machine.

CLAMSHELL ASSEMBLY COMPONENTS



CLAMSHELL ASSEMBLY COMPONENTS

ITEM	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION	ITEM	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	1-7316	TUBE, Grass	32	9-1811	BOLT, 5/16-18 x 5/8" Hex
2	2-8700	DECAL, Read Manual (Not Shown)			Flange Lock (3)
3	1-1870	GRIP	33	3-1954	SUPPORT, Bumper
4	1-6314	WASHER, 11/32 Flat (9)	34	3-3587	BUMPER, Rear
5	3-6422	WASHER, 3/16 Flat (30)	35	7-3272	SPACER, Bumper Bracket
6	5-8615	WELDMENT, Front Cover Brace	36	9-0509	WASHER, 1/2 Internal Tooth Lock
7	7-2873	COVER, Front	37	9-1270	SCREW, 5/16-18 x 1-3/4" Hex Washer Self-Tapping (5)
8	7-2874	DEFLECTOR (Not Shown)	38	9-0646	BOLT, 1/2-13 x 1" Hex Head Cap Grade 5
9	7-2950	GASKET, Chute	39	9-1316	NUT, 1/2-13 Hex Gr. B
10	9-0307	SCREW, #10-24 x 1/2" Self- Tapping (3)	40	9-1299	NUT, 3/8-16 Hex Lock (4)
11	9-0999	SCREW, 1/4-20 x 5/8" Pan Head Self-Tapping (9)	41	9-1304	SCREW, 3/8-16 x 1" Hex Head Cap Grade 5 (2)
12	9-1079	NUT, #10-24 Hex Fl. Lock (22)	42	4-4773	WELDMENT, LT Bumper
13	7-2951	END CAP, Tube	43	9-0624	BOLT, #10-24 x 3/4" Hex Flange Lock, Grade 5
14	5-8600	WELDMENT, Rear Cover Brace	44	5-8641*	ASSEMBLY, Chute
15	7-2872	COVER, Rear	45	9-1296	WASHER, 5/16" Flat (2)
16	7-2876	GRILL, Rear Cover (Not Shown)	46	9-1298	NUT, 5/16-18 Hex Nyloc (2)
17	7-3145	BOLT, #10-24 x 1-1/2" Oval Head (13)	47	7-3172	LINK, Handle (Right Hand)
18	7-3179	HINGE, Rear Cover	48	7-3173	LINK, Handle (Left Hand)
19	9-1265	SCREW, #10-24 x 1-1/2 Machine (5)	49	7-3171	PLATE, Hitch
20	7-2964	DECAL, Warning (Not Shown)	50	9-1300	WASHER, 7/16" Flat (4)
21	3-1951	LATCH, Chute/Tube	51	9-1891	BOLT, 3/8-16 x 1" Hex Flange Lock (2)
22	3-1952	BASE, Handle	--	6-0480	KIT, Air Lift (Incl. Items 52-55)
23	3-7745	HANDLE, Tube	52	3-7723	Air Lift (2)
24	9-1303	BOLT, 5/16-18 x 1" Round Head Short Neck Carriage, Grade 5	53	9-0223	NUT, 5/16-24 Hex (6)
25	9-1314	WASHER, 1/4 Internal Tooth Lock (3)	54	9-0228	SCREW, 5/16-24 x 5/8" Oval Head Machine (6)
26	9-1530	BOLT, 1/4-20 x 3/4" Round Hd. Short Nk. Carriage, Gr. 5 (3)	55	9-0391	WASHER, 5/16 Internal Tooth Lock (6)
27	9-1537	NUT, 5/16-18 Wing	56	9-1905	BOLT, 5/16-18 x 7/8" Hex Flange Lock (2)
28	9-1576	NUT, 1/4-20 Hex (3)	57	7-3262	BRACKET, Bumper Support (Right Hand)
29	9-1593	PIN, 3/8 Self Lock Cotter (2)	58	7-3263	BRACKET, Bumper Support (Left Hand)
30	9-1514	WASHER, 3/8 Flat (8)	59	5-8745	BRACE, Bumper
31	9-1601	NUT, 5/16-18 Flange Lock (8)	60	7-3509	SCREEN, Clamshell (not shown)

***NOTE: 5-8641 includes a bag adapter (part no. 1-9912) and two decals (part nos. 4-6720 & 2-9784).**

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