

Introduction

Numerous studies have been conducted on lawn mower accidents. One source claims that lawn mower accidents account for 75 fatalities each year in the U.S., as well as 1200 serious injuries annually. Two sources claim that a serious lawn mower accident involving a young child occurs every day. The Insurance Information Institute has found that about 75,000 people each year require emergency room treatment for lawn mower accident injuries. Yet another study says that about 9400 children receive emergency care each year in the U.S., with 25% of these injuries occurring to children younger than five years. These statistics are sobering, but advances in lawnmower safety have resulted in safer lawnmowers in recent years. Even so, manufacturers are still producing mowers that are killing and injuring people. This product litigation manual examines the causes of lawnmower injuries, and provides an in-depth analysis of the hazards associated with different types of lawnmowers. Attorneys with a potential client with a lawnmower injury can use this book to determine if they should take on the case and whether the injury could be due to a design defect of the product. Attorneys currently representing a client with a case involving lawnmowers can use this book to gain direction and insight into the technical aspects of product litigation cases. Designers can use this book as a reference when designing mowers, as this manual details hazards of mowers that must be safeguarded by the lawnmower designer.