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TURFCO

PROPER MAINTENANCE FOR SNOW BLOWERS

Depending on where you live, your snow blower may sit unused for 8 months or more after winter weather ends. Be sure that your snow blower is ready for the task before the snow begins to fly again.

According to John Bailey, product manager for Husqvarna, there are three steps to preparing your snow blower: a careful inspection, replacement of worn parts, and a test drive of the unit.

Inspection
Carefully check the frame, auger housing, and auger or paddles. Look for worn out or loose parts, including:
- The scraper bar, which is the part that makes contact with the ground and scrapes the snow up.
- Screws and bolts: make sure they’re tight and none are missing.
- Belts: take the belt cover off and check for wear; check any idler pulleys, and make sure the bearings are not worn or the pulley is loose.

Replacement
After a thorough inspection:
- Replace any worn out parts.
- Drain the old gas from the tank and refill with fresh gas.
- For two-cycle engines, replace the spark plug.
- For four-cycle engines, check the oil and change it at least once a year, or following 20 hours of use.

Test Drive
Make sure the snow blower is ready for action with a “test drive.” Better to find out about any problems now instead of when the temperature is below freezing.
- Let the unit run long enough to burn out any remaining old gas in the fuel line and carburetor.
- After a few minutes, stop the engine, then start it again while the engine is warm.
- After several hours, try to start it again. If it still starts easily, you should be ready to go.

Bailey also recommends reviewing your owner’s manual for a complete guide to maintaining your specific snow blower model. For repairs or persistent problems, contact your local certified servicing dealer.

Provided by Husqvarna

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