Lawn Mower Tune Up Checklist

*This is a basic checklist with popular procedures. Always refer to your owner's manual for manufacturer specific tune-up recommendations.*

- **Check Air Filter**
  - Clean the filter to remove any built up debris.
  - **Replace the filter** if it is damaged or torn.

- **Check Spark Plug**
  - Clean spark plug with wire brush and ignition cleaner to remove combustion residue.
  - **Replace the spark plug** if damaged or the electrode is worn down.

- **Check Oil**
  - Check the oil level. Are you low? Add oil to the recommended level on the dipstick (ex. “Full”).
  - **Change the oil** if you did not do so before storage in the fall. It’s always best to start the season fresh.

- **Stabilize Fuel**
  - Make sure any old gas has been removed from the fuel tank.
  - Treat new fuel by adding a **fuel stabilizer** each and every time you buy new gas.

- **Check Mower Blades**
  - Sharpen dull blades. A dull blade will tear the grass rather than giving a clean cut.
  - **Replace blades** if damaged, have excessive dents, or if the metal is wearing thin after several sharpenings.

- **Recharge Battery (Riding Mowers)**
  - Recharge the battery on your riding mower. Chances are all the juice has drained over winter if you did not hook the battery up to a trickle charger.

- **Inspect Belts**
  - Check for frayed or worn belts. **Replace a belt** if needed.

- **Clean Deck**
  - Clean the top and underside of the deck to remove all that old dried up grass.