Changing Oil in a Lawnmower

Today on Gardening in a Minute: changing lawn mower oil.

Changing the oil in your lawn mower is a simple but essential chore that extends the life of your mower.

First, always disconnect the spark plug wire. Remove the oil plug and drain the oil into a safe container. This is a good time to check your air filter and mower blade. Then, replace but don’t over tighten the oil plug.

Check the owner’s manual for the recommended oil type. Fill the reservoir with oil, checking the level several times until the dipstick registers full. If you overfill, the lawn mower will billow white smoke as the excess oil is burned off. Finally, replace the dipstick and reattach the spark plug wire.

As with all hazardous materials, make sure to dispose of the oil properly.

For more about lawn mowers and many other gardening topics, contact your county extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida’s Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.