



Fred Goes To Pieces

The other day I was mowing my lawn when I ran over the bendable Fred figure in the photo. This poor ol' Scooby Doo hero is one tough character, but he won't be solving any more mysteries around my house. The condition of his chopped-to-bits hard rubber body is child's play when you consider what could happen to a hand or foot.

And speaking of child's play, there's another angle to this story. When I ran over him, Fred's legs shot out of the mower like a huge rubber bullet and hit the glass doors near my patio. "So what" you say? Well, it just so happens that, moments before, my kids were playing in the spot where the legs flew.

During a quick pre-mow risk assessment, I'd made the observation that something could fly out and hit the kiddies. My not-so-well received solution was to move them inside until I was done. I'm glad I did.

Folks, risk management works. With most everyday chores, there's no mystery in the process. It's just the application of the common sense portion of your brain. In a matter of seconds, I'd identified a hazard, implemented controls, and possibly prevented a nasty boo-boo to one of my rug rats. Use it for yourself, and you just might avoid a serious mishap yourself ... seriously!