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MoDOT Employing Robots to Mow Along Roadsides

(KTNC) - The Missouri Department of Transportation is employing some new technology this year to mow the grass on the sides of roadways. The department this year unveiled a new remote control mower.

The four-bladed robotic mower can be operated from up to 500 feet away. MoDOT Maintenance Engineer Ken Warbritton says Missouri is one of the first states to try out the new technology. (play audio :12 “if it’s feasible.”)

The 40-thousand dollar robotic mower can reach places and steep embankments that big tractors can’t.

MoDOT crews – robotic and non-robotic – are out in full force throughout most of the state. The department mows all highways in the state at least three times a year, and Warbritton urges drivers to pay attention for any mowers they see on the highways. (play audio :16 “mowers ahead.”)

MoDOT spends between 24 and 27 million dollars per year to mow along the highways in the state.

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