

GRASSCYCLING MOWING TIPS

- Cut when the grass is dry. Keep your mower sharp.
- Set your mower to cut at the proper height.
- Mow often . Try not to remove more than one-third of the lawn height each cut.. Frequent mowing may be needed at times.
- Proper mowing is essential to grass-cycling and can increase lawn quality by 30% or more.
- All mowers can grass-cycle. Simply remove your mower's collection bag.
- Many manufacturers have attachment or special designs that improve a mower's grass-cycling performance.
- Frequent mowing at a low cutting height deprives the root system of nutrients and moisture. Longer grass blades create more shade, providing the soil protection from the sun.

MOWING HEIGHT FOR CERTAIN GRASS TYPES

Kentucky Blue Grass – 3.0"

Fescues & Ryegrass – 3.0"

Bentgrass – 1.0"

Bermudagrass – 1.0" to 2.5"

Zoysia – 1.0" to 1.5"

St. Augustine – 3.0"

Centipedegrass – 1.5"

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REDUCE LANDFILL FEES

And

PROLONG LANDFILL LIFE

Town of Collierville

PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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Town of Collierville

Public Services Department



A Guide to Grasscycling



Grasscycling:

The natural recycling of grass clippings left on a lawn to decay and release nutrients for a greener, healthier lawn.

BENEFITS OF GRASSCYCLING

- **Grasscycling** is the natural and easy process of leaving grass clippings on the lawn when mowing.
- Recycling grass clippings is simple, effective and saves time, work, money and it helps conserve landfill capacity.
- Grasscycling is not new. Many parks and golf courses have been practicing grasscycling successfully for years.
- The end result is a greener, healthier lawn.

GRASSCYCLING DOES NOT CAUSE THATCH BUILD-UP

An 11-year study at the USDA research station in Beltsville MD showed that thatch is mainly composed of grass roots, not clippings. Clippings left on the lawn decay quickly and release nutrients back to the established grass.

GRASSCYCLING DOES NOT SPREAD LAWN DISEASE

Watering, fertilization, and sharpness of the mower blade have a greater influence on the occurrence of lawn disease than grasscycling.

DON'T BAG

CLIPPINGS NURTURE THE LAWN

- No need for bagging
- Uses less water and fertilizer
- Reduces use of landfill space
- Clipping nutrients encourage a healthier lawn
- Less mowing, hauling.

WATERING PLAN

- Established lawns need irrigation to supplement natural rainfall yet may require more water in hot weather, even in dry cool periods.
- In hot dry weather, lawns may need as much as 1" of water every 5 to 7 days or up to 3-hours with the typical sprinkler.
- Try to water in early morning. Watering in evenings may encourage disease.
- Portable sprinklers offer reasonable prices for watering, distribution and range methods. Select a sprinkler based on the size and shape of your lawn.
- Stationary sprinklers are good for small patches that need extra water.



- Rotary and impact sprinklers are for circular watering on lawns that are medium to large.
- Oscillating sprinklers send a fan of water over a large rectangular area. Revolving sprinklers work in smaller areas, shooting a circular pattern of jets of water.
- A time-controlled irrigation system can maximize efficiency with an automatic lawn watering schedule.



FERTILIZE PROPERLY

Lawns need properly timed fertilizer applications to become dense and green. Over fertilization weakens



your lawn and causes excess top growth. Grass-cycling, in conjunction with proper fertilization, enhances the health of your lawn. Grasscycling greatly reduces the need for fertilizer because grass clippings return nitrogen to the soil.

QUICK FACTS

- Grasscycling, reduces costs and improves the environment because it reduces the number of grass bags taken to the landfill.
- The Town collects an average of **6,300** tons of bagged grass or approximately **77,300** bags each year. All bagged grass collected is taken to a landfill for disposal.
- Collection of bagged grass costs the Town **\$275,000** per year for collection and disposal.

Don't Bag...Grasscycle



DON'T TRASH GRASS