



JUST MOW IT!

GRASS RECYCLING

Why you should grasscycle:

We encourage residents to leave the grass clippings in place and not to bag them for these reasons:

- Grass clippings decompose quickly and are a natural fertilizer that returns vital nutrients such as Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P) and Potassium (K) to your soil. This reduces the need to purchase expensive chemical fertilizers that sometimes lead to harmful runoff that enters our waterways.
- The decomposed organic matter help with water retention and keep your lawn moist.

Steps to successful grasscycling:

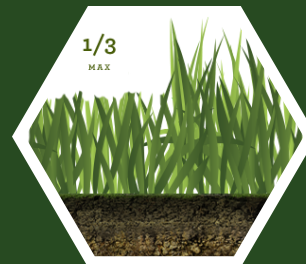
- Remember the 1/3 Rule. Allow your lawn to grow at least 3 inches high. When mowing, cut no more than 1 inch off the top.
- Keep your mower blades sharp and consider investing in a mulching blade. Mulching blades recut the grass into finer piece which hastens clipping decomposition and reduce residue on lawn.
- Water your lawn in the early morning hours (between 6:00am and 10:00am). Water a maximum of 3-4 hours per week, and less if it rains.
- Don't over-fertilize your lawn! Remember that grass clippings left in place actually fertilize your lawn.

Concerns you might have:

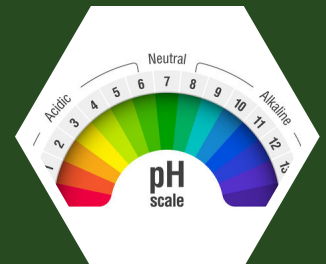
- **Thatch:** Is the tightly intermingled layer of partially decomposed stems and roots that develop between the grass and soil. Grass clippings are composted of mostly leaf tissue which decompose rapidly. If soil pH is too low (acidic) the microorganisms needed to decompose clippings will be reduced. A good practice is to test your soil pH and maintain a neutral pH between 6.0 and 7.5.
- **Clumps of wet grass:** Periods of prolonged rainfall make it difficult to mow, and sometimes result in large clumps of grass. Allow the lawn to dry out, then re-mow to facilitate dispersal.

The Town of Huntington excludes grass clippings from curbside yard waste collection. Bagged grass clippings may be brought to the Recycling Center, 641 New York Ave, Huntington for a disposal fee of \$2.00 per bag. Note: Five bag limit per resident, proof of residency is required. No commercial vehicles allowed.

Grasscycling Basics



1/3 RULE



PH OF SOIL 6-7.5



MULCH IN PLACE



NUTRIENT RECYCLING