

## Grass Clipping “Cut it and Leave it” Program

The best thing you can do for your lawn is to leave the grass clippings on it. By doing this, you achieve several things:

- ✱ You return nitrogen to the lawn
- ✱ You save precious time by not bagging
- ✱ You save money by not having to add commercial chemical fertilizers
- ✱ You save money on disposal
- ✱ You lower the water requirements of the lawn
- ✱ In combination with composting, you greatly reduce the amount of trash entering our landfill



### The Process:

A mulching mower is ideal, as it grinds the clippings into a fine spray that filters down through the lawn; however, a regular mower can be used if you mow more frequently. Even with a mulching mower, you should only mow the top third of the lawn, leaving the blade a length of 2-3 inches. The longer length keeps the lawn healthier, and the taller grass will shade the soil, cooling roots and limiting weeds. (Yes, believe it or not, weeds grow slower than turf grass).

### What About Thatch?

Lawn experts agree that grass clippings will not contribute to thatch problems. Thatch is formed by the accumulation of dead roots and stems. The more you fertilize and water your lawn, the faster it grows and the faster thatch accumulates.

### Reduce Your Lawn Area!!

Instead of large expenses of lawn, plant native gardens that benefit wildlife!