

SPRING Lawn Care Tips



Spring is a time of rejuvenation. Say goodbye to the last of that gray, gritty snow. It's time for some lawn TLC.

TIPS FOR A HEALTHY SPRING LAWN:

- ▶ **REMOVE**—Remove damage and dead vegetation.
- ▶ **RESEED**—Reseed bare spots caused by salt with a salt-tolerant grass mix. Then keep the ground moist for 3-4 weeks.
- ▶ **KEEP GRASS LONG**—2-1/2 to 3 inches long for the healthiest growth.
- ▶ **WAIT TO FERTILIZE**—Fall is the best time to fertilize. If you're worried about lawn nutrition, have a free soil test done. For a free test kit, call the County Extension Service at 651-374-8400. If you do fertilize, wait until the ground thaws so it doesn't wash off.

TIPS FOR KEEPING POLLUTANTS OUT:*

- ▶ **FOLLOW DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY**—When applying and disposing of lawn-care products, please follow all instructions.
- ▶ **SWEEP UP**—Sweep up lawn products that fall on driveways or sidewalks.
- ▶ **REUSE**—Reuse or properly dispose of lawn products or chemical waste.
- ▶ **KEEP DRAINS CLEAR**—Keep storm drains clear of debris.
- ▶ **AVOID STREET WASTE**—Avoid raking leaves or shooting grass clippings into the street. Compost yard waste or bag it for collection.
- ▶ **"DOUBLE BAG" PET WASTE**—And dispose of all pet waste in trash.
- ▶ **CLEAN**—Clean material from gutters.
- ▶ **DIRECT**—Direct downspouts onto grass.

*Springtime pollutants include phosphorous and other chemicals. Phosphorous is found in organic materials—soil, grass, leaves, fertilizer, and pet waste. In waters, they feed algae. Chemicals are often part of spring fix-up efforts—paints, oils, and cleaners. Both can get into storm sewers, washed off by rainwater and snow runoff. It is not treated! It goes directly into area lakes and streams.