

Grass clippings are rich in nutrients.

Grass clipping “do’s”:

- Leave them on the lawn
- Compost them, mix into garden soil, or bring them to a county compost facility.

What’s in it for you?

- Grass clippings are 80-85% water: Keeping them on the lawn helps retain moisture as they break down.
- Grass clippings are 4% nitrogen, .5% phosphorus, and 2% potassium. A summer’s worth of grass clippings is roughly equivalent to an application of fertilizer.
- Leaving grass clippings on the lawn saves money in fertilizer costs and spares the time spent bagging, hauling, or transporting the clippings.



What about thatch?

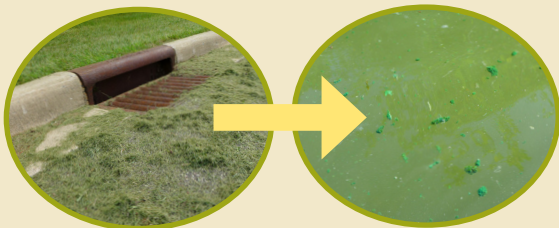
Clippings do not produce thatch due to their water content and quick decomposition. Thatch is caused by dead roots and stems most often caused by over-fertilizing and over-watering.

[See reverse](#)

Nutrients fuel green lakes.

Grass clipping “dont’s”:

- Don’t trash. They add cost to collection and are too valuable of a nutrient to throw away. The nutrients are most at home in the soil.
- Don’t blow them into the street or other paved areas. Nitrogen and phosphorus become pollutants when roaming free on the surface.
- Never dump them into neighborhood common areas such as ditches, wetlands, lake shores, forest patches, or your neighbor’s yard.



Be quick: More time on the ground is more contaminate to lakes, streams, and wetlands. The resulting algae blooms throw water off balance and can be toxic.

Remember that despite being common, blowing grass clippings into the street falls under illegal dumping into a waterway.

**Every curb, ditch, and stormdrain
is waterfront property.**