

## Proper Fertilization

Grasscycling can reduce the amount of fertilizer you need by 15 to 20% because grass clippings return nitrogen to the soil.

Fertilization should be based on your lawn's needs, soil tests, maintenance practices, and desired appearance.

An analysis of your soil can be obtained from Texas A & M. Obtain information at <http://soiltesting.tamu.edu/files/urbansoil.pdf>

## Use chemicals sparingly

Overfertilization can weaken a lawn by causing excessive top growth. The first application should not be applied until your grass is growing and you've mowed at least one time.

**More is NOT better.**

**Read the label and follow the directions.**

No one would fertilize a body of water, but when you over-apply fertilizer and pesticides the excess washes down the street and eventually into Cypress Creek, Lake Houston, and then Galveston Bay.

## Grasscycling Does NOT Cause Thatch

Research has determined that thatch buildup is caused by grass stems, shoots, and roots - not grass clippings.

Grass clippings rapidly decompose and valuable nutrients including nitrogen are released back into the soil.

*Grasscycling is a proven  
and effective method  
of lawn care.*

*Grasscycling also provides  
a great way to reduce  
your trash and  
reduce what we all send  
to the landfill —  
saving everyone money.*

**Post Wood MVD**  
**281.376.8802**

Additional information on lawn care can be found at the Texas A & M Agricultural Extension Service website:

[http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/lawn\\_garden/landscape.html](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/lawn_garden/landscape.html)

and

[www.yardwise.org](http://www.yardwise.org)



# Grasscycling

Let your

GRASS

fertilize

your GRASS

# Grasscycling

## Feed Your Landscape - Not the Landfill

Grass clippings make up a large portion of 'trash' that is taken to Texas landfills. Putting grass clippings and other yard debris in the 'trash' is expensive both in the cost of transporting them and landfill fees.

## What is Grasscycling

Grasscycling is the natural recycling of grass clippings by leaving them on the lawn when mowing instead of bagging them.

Texas A & M's Agricultural Extension Services has proven grasscycling to be a simple and effective way to save you time, work, and money while reducing what is taken to the landfill.

## Saves Time & Money

Grasscycling saves you time by not having to empty grass bags and saves the cost of buying bags.

Grasscycling returns many nutrients to the soil including nitrogen that makes your lawn greener and tougher.

Less chemical fertilizers are needed by grasscycling.



## Proper Mowing is the Key

- ✦ Mow no more than 1/3 of the height
- ✦ Maintain sharp mower blades
- ✦ Mow when the grass is dry

Raise the cutting height of your mower during the summer. The taller grass blades will shade the soil and help maintain soil moisture.

All mowers can grasscycle and no special equipment is needed.

Many manufacturers sell mower attachments that chop clippings into smaller pieces and improve a mower's grasscycling performance. Newer mowers often have this feature built in.

Most lawns in Post Wood MUD are St. Augustine grass. St. Augustine has a wider grass blade than Bermuda.



Save water and money by  
Watering Smart and  
Grasscycling



## How to Water Smart

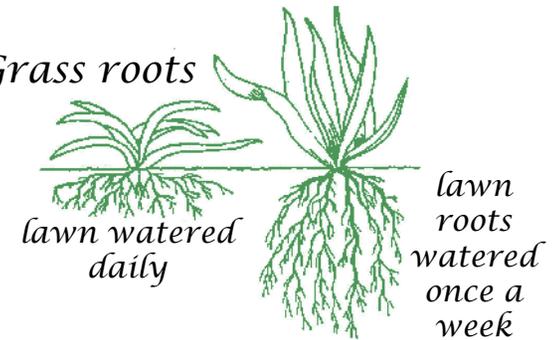
Lawns generally need 1" of water (rain or irrigation) during the heat of summer and less when it is cooler.

Water early in the morning to avoid losing up to 60% of your water to evaporation from the heat, sun, and wind.

If you have an automatic irrigation system adjust the water frequency and time when the weather changes.

Most grasses take on a dull, dark appearance and the leaf blades begin to fold or roll. Grass needing water will also show tracks when walked on.

## Grass roots



*Letting your soil dry between watering encourages roots to grow deep which makes the lawn healthier and more drought resistant.*

*Lawns with shallow roots are more susceptible to insect and disease damage.*