

# Keep It Green



Did you know that leaving grass clippings on the lawn can save you time and it's good for the environment? Grasscycling is recycling. By allowing the clippings to decompose back into the soil, you are recycling the clippings into a natural, environmentally-friendly soil conditioner.

## Know the Facts.

Some residents fear that leaving grass clippings on the lawn may cause thatch. However, thatch buildup is due in most part to improper watering and fertilization. Thatch is made up mostly of roots, dead leaf sheaths and rhizomes that decompose slowly.

Grass clippings on the other hand decompose rapidly and will make your lawn healthier, stronger, and more durable.

Learn more about the benefits of grasscycling by visiting the **Montgomery County Division of Solid Waste Services** at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling) or call 240-777-6480 for more information.

## Montgomery County Division of Solid Waste Services

[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling) • E-mail: [recycle@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:recycle@montgomerycountymd.gov)  
Phone: 240.777.6480 • Fax: 240.777.6465 • TTY: 240.777.6442

# GRASSCYCLING. JUST MOW & GO!

Grasscycling is simple and easy. It saves time over collecting and placing the grass clippings into paper lawn bags or in reusable containers for curbside recycling collection. With the proper tools and technique, you can reap all of the benefits of grasscycling. Just follow these basic tips:

-  Use a mulching mower that will cut grass clippings into finer pieces. Traditional and manual push mowers work just as well, just be sure the blades are sharp.
-  Cut no more than one-third of the length of the blade of grass at a time and maintain the grass at a height of two to three inches depending on the type of grass.
-  Mow at least once per week during the growing season.
-  Cut the grass when it is dry. This allows for better distribution of the clippings and decreases the chance of clogging your lawn mower.



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**Montgomery County  
Division of Solid Waste Services**

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## GRASSCYCLING. *JUST MOW & GO!*

### Did You Know?

-  Grass clippings are 75 to 85 percent water.
-  Grass clippings decompose quickly and release valuable nutrients back into the soil.
-  Grass clippings reduce the need to purchase and use commercial fertilizers.
-  Montgomery County composts nearly 70,000 tons of yard trim materials annually.



Grasscycling reduces the amount of grass clippings that must be collected, transported and processed in Montgomery County. And, by recycling the nutrients back into the soil you will have a healthier lawn and cleaner environment.



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