
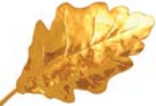



BE SMART

About Yard Work & Yard Waste

1. Schedule big lawn & garden projects for dry weather.
2. Use plants that require less water. 
3. Prevent erosion by planting fast-growing grasses to shield & bind the soil.
4. Don't overwater. Use drip irrigation, soaker hoses, or micro-spray systems. 
5. Take clippings to a landfill for composting.
6. Put leaves & clippings in paper or clear plastic bags, strong cardboard boxes, or a black yard waste cart for curb side pick-up. 
7. Tie sticks & limbs in bundles no more than 4 feet long.
8. Don't blow or rake leaves into the street or gutter. 
9. Don't overfertilize or apply chemicals near ditches, streams, or water bodies.
10. Avoid hosing down pavement. 

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About City Services

The City of Burlington picks up larger yard waste, in volume or length, on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday by a special knuckle boom truck. There is a special collection charge if the amount collected exceeds 3 cubic yards. For more information go to <http://burlingtonnc.gov> public works page.

To Prepare Yard Waste for Pickup:

- **CAN IT:** Use your own metal or plastic trash can, no larger than 32 gallons. Filled cans should weigh no more than 50 pounds.
- **BAG IT:** Use clear plastic bags not to exceed 32-gallon capacity or 50lbs. in weight
- **BOX IT:** Use cardboard boxes no longer than 32 gallons. Filled boxes should weigh no more than 50 pounds.
- **STACK IT:** Place shrubs, brush and limb clippings in a near pile, loose on the ground, to be collected. Grass, leaves and other loose yard waste must be placed in cans or boxes. Stumps or logs larger than 6 inches in diameter will not be collected.

Stormwater SMART

Piedmont Triad Regional Council

2216 West Meadowview Rd.
Greensboro, NC 27407

Phone: (336) 294-4950

Email: stormwatersmart@ptrc.org



DO NOT BLOW OR RAKE LEAVES INTO THE STREET OR GUTTER.

USE CURBSIDE YARD

WASTE RECYCLING OR TAKE

YARDWASTE TO A LANDFILL FOR

COMPOSTING.



DON'T KILL INSECTS THAT AREN'T HARMFUL.



GRASSCYCLE!



KEEP YARD CHEMICALS AWAY FROM DITCHES, STORM DRAINS, OR WATER BODIES.



On the web:

WWW.STORMWATERSMART.ORG



Yard waste is polluting our water ways!

"GRASSCYCLE!"

Storm Drain Systems

Storm drain systems are street gutters, storm drain pipes, catch basins or inlets, low points of the sides of streets and parking lots, detention/retention basins that hold stormwater, as well as ditches and drainage ways that transport water directly to local streams, rivers or lakes. Storm drain systems are designed to prevent flooding by transporting water away from developed areas.

How Does Yard Waste Pollute Water Ways?

What you do in the yard can directly impact the quality of our local waters. When rainwater or sprinkler water flows from yards, over streets or any surface, it picks up pollutants and carries them into the stormwater system.

Soggy yard waste is a major contributor to clogged storm drains and street & neighborhood flooding. Grass clippings, leaves, and tree trimmings swept or blown into streets and gutters clog catch basins as well as carry yard chemicals

into our waterways. Once settled into water bodies, these materials begin to decompose, and absorb the oxygen fish need to survive. Chemicals such as fertilizer and pesticides damage the natural habitat.

BE SMART

when you apply pesticides or fertilizers. Do not apply lawn chemicals before it rains. Not only will you lose most of the chemicals through runoff, but you will also be harming the environment.

Grass clippings are 20-30% protein, and usually contain about 4% nitrogen, 2% potassium and 0.5% phosphorus as well as all the necessary trace elements plants need. The grass clippings act like a slow-release nitrogen fertilizer, providing a constant supply of nitrogen and other nutrients.

LEAVES are much more resistant to decomposition than grass clippings, mostly because they have a lower nitrogen content. The decomposition of leaves can be hastened dramatically if the leaves are shredded. But if there is a large amount of leaves, they should be removed.

The Truth about "THATCH"

Grass clippings do not cause thatch build up!

Grass clippings, with their

high water and nitrogen content, decay rapidly and release nitrogen and other nutrients back into the soil.

Volunteer

Opportunities to Help Keep Our Water Ways Clean!



If your organization would like to:

- *Learn how to volunteer; or*
- *Schedule a speaker for your event,*

Please call Stormwater SMART at 336-294-4950 or email:

stormwatersmart@ptrc.org

