

# Summertime = Lawn Maintenance

“Keep It Clean, We All Live Downstream.”



Summertime, the grass grows tall and we have to keep it trimmed and looking good. What do we do with the clippings and yard waste when maintaining our lawns? Do we rake or blow it out into the street just to get it out of our yard? If it's in the street or along the curb, where does it go when it rains? It all gets washed to the storm drains. Grass clippings and yard waste can clog storm drains and pipes when not disposed of properly. Grass and yard waste, as it breaks down in the stormwater system, depletes oxygen levels in the water, oxygen that aquatic life needs to survive. A lack of oxygen in waterways also causes algae blooms, which deplete oxygen levels further and can lead to fish kills and an unhealthy water supply. Remember, stormwater is **not** treated before it reaches our waterways. Please help us in our mission to protect them! “Keep it clean, we all live downstream”

### ***What you can do with your grass clippings and yard waste!***

1. Bag your grass clippings and yard waste and leave at the back of the curb for pick up.
2. Compost and mulch your clippings and yard waste, then apply to flower beds and lawns as a natural fertilizer.
3. Leave your grass clippings on your lawn to act as a natural fertilizer.
4. DO **NOT** dump grass clippings and yard waste into storm drains or onto stream banks.
5. DO **NOT** apply fertilizer before a rain event. The fertilizer will be washed into the stormdrains.