

SPRING LAWN CARE TIPS!

Spring is a time of rejuvenation. Say goodbye to the last of that gray, gritty snow. It's time for some lawn TLC.

TIPS FOR A HEALTHY SPRING LAWN:

- **REMOVE** – Remove damage and dead vegetation.
- **RESEED** – Reseed bare spots caused by salt with a salt-tolerant grass mix. Then keep the ground moist for 3-4 weeks.
- **KEEP GRASS LONG** – 2-1/2 to 3 inches long for the healthiest growth.
- **WAIT TO FERTILIZE** – Fall is the best time to fertilize. If you're worried about lawn nutrition, have a free soil test done. For a free test kit, call the County Extension Service at 651-374-8400. If you do fertilize, wait until the ground thaws so it doesn't wash off.

TIPS FOR KEEPING POLLUTANTS OUT:*

- **FOLLOW DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY** – When applying and disposing of lawn-care products, please follow all instructions.
- **SWEEP-UP** – Sweep up lawn products that fall on driveways or sidewalks.
- **REUSE** – Reuse or properly dispose of lawn products or chemical waste.
- **KEEP DRAINS CLEAR** – Keep storm drains clear of debris.
- **AVOID STREET WASTE** – Avoid raking leaves or shooting grass clippings into the street. Compost yard waste or bag it for collection.
- **“DOUBLE BAG” PET WASTE** – And dispose of all pet waste in the trash.
- **CLEAN** – Clean material from gutters.
- **DIRECT** – Direct downspouts onto grass.

*Springtime pollutants include phosphorous and other chemicals. Phosphorous is found in organic materials – soil, grass, leaves, fertilizer, and pet waste. In waters, they feed algae. Chemicals are often part of spring fix-up efforts – paints, oils, and cleaners. Both can get into storm sewers, washed off by rainwater and snow runoff. It is not treated! It goes directly into area lakes and streams.