

LAWN CARE & LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

Carroll County Environmental Advisory Council Spring 2017 Workshop

LAWN CARE

- Get a soil test before you over fertilize
- Leave grass clippings on the lawn and do not bag
- Do not cut your lawn too short, as this allows weed seeds to germinate and crowd out your grass

LAWN CARE

Sharp Blades for a Clean Cut Mow High To Discourage Weeds Don't Bag Clippings

Mowing

Soil Test Don't over fertilize Let clippings lay, as they provide organic matter and nutrients

Fertilization

Control as needed Mow high to choke out weeds

Weeds

Only water newly seeded areas During drought, don't water, let grass go

dormant

LANDSCAPING

Common Sense Approach

LANDSCAPING

Planting

- Design and plant beds to minimize erosion and rain water runoff
- Use native plants when possible, They require less fertilizer, chemicals and watering
- Mulch Beds to conserve water during times of drought
- Hand pull weeds when possible or spot spray to eliminate wide scale spraying

Maintenance

- Keep beds free of weeds to reduce competition for your plants
- Try to compost plant trimmings and reuse
- Always clean up any spills of chemicals, mulch or soil especially from driveways or sidewalk to eliminate possible runoff into waterways

COMMON SENSE OVERVIEW

LAWN

- Don't mow every Friday just because its Friday
- Don't mow too often during times of drought
- Try to mow when the grass is dry

LANDSCAPE

- Don't plant invasives ie Barberry, English Ivy, Butterfly Bush, Burning Bush, Wisteria
- Use Rain Gardens where possible
- Compost as much as possible including branch trimmings, excess grass clippings, leaves and organic kitchen waste

When Hiring A Contractor

- Don't just get the '5' seasonal lawn applications, it usually is not necessary and it just wastes your money and adds unnecessary chemicals to the environment
- Hire a reputable contractor who works with the environment and doesn't just throw in cheap plants from a big box store.
- Don't let your lawn mowers cut your grass if it doesn't need it just because its your scheduled day to have it done
- Snow removal Avoid the use of salt or ice melter unless its absolutely necessary
- Sometimes Less is More. It sure is cheaper and easier on the wallet.



LAWN & LANDSCAPE

THANKS FOR ATTENDING