**SPRING TO-DO LIST FOR A HEALTHY LAWN**

- **Read your soil test.**
  - If you haven’t done a soil test within the past three years, do one now (cost: $10-$18). Make plans for what your lawn will need this year. The health of your lawn is tied to the health of your soil.

- **Feed your soil.**
  - If you are just transitioning from chemical fertilizers, or want to improve the health of your lawn:
    - Aerate and topdress the lawn with well-aged compost in early spring.
    - Apply compost tea once a month to boost important soil microorganisms.

- **Mow smart.**
  - Mower blades should be sharpened after every 10-12 hours of use. Buy a second blade, and swap them out between sharpening.
  - Set your mower blade to cut higher than 3 or 4 inches. A longer lawn is healthier and will reduce weeds.
  - Always leave grass clippings. They’re free fertilizer.

- **Remove weeds.**
  - Hand pull weeds you don’t want, but allow clover to grow. If you mow high, overseed and care for your soil, your lawn will outcompete the weeds.

- **Avoid unnecessary watering.**
  - Frequent, shallow watering actually encourages weeds.
  - If watering during dry spells, water deeply to encourage healthy root growth.

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**YOUR SPRING GUIDE TO ORGANIC LAWN CARE!**

Start the year off right to ensure a lush, green lawn.

- Read your soil test.
- Feed your soil.
- Mow smart.
- Remove weeds.

Talk to your lawn care provider about organic options.

**WHY SWITCH TO ORGANIC LAWN CARE?**

- Healthier for your kids
- Healthier for your pets
- Healthier for your lawn
- Healthier for the environment

For more lawn care tips, visit [montgomerycountymd.gov/lawns](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/lawns)