Grasscycling
Let your grass clippings fall back on the lawn when you mow. Just mow and go!

**GRASS HEIGHT**
Cut no more than one-third of the length of the blade of grass at a time and set the mower blade at a height of three inches. For Bermuda and Zoysia grasses, set the mower blade at one inch.

**FREQUENCY**
Mow at least once per week during the growing season.

**CUT WHEN DRY**
Cut your grass when it is dry. This allows for better distribution of the grass clippings and prevents clumping.

*Note: Grass clippings do NOT lead to thatch buildup. Thatch is caused by improper fertilization and watering that encourages root systems to remain close to the surface.*

Composting
The easy way to recycle your grass and leaves into nutrient-rich soil.

**COMPOST BIN**
Get a compost bin from the Montgomery County Division of Solid Waste Services for no additional charge. Go to www.montgomerycountymd.gov/yardtrim or call 311 for a list of locations.

**START YOUR COMPOST PILE**
Place a mixture of brown and green materials into your compost bin and add water. Ideally you want a mixture of carbon-rich “brown” materials (leaves, sawdust, straw, woodchips, etc.) to nitrogen-rich “green” materials (grass clippings, flowers, plant trimmings, etc.).

**KEEP OUT FOOD WASTE**
Do not add food scraps to the compost bin. Food can attract pests such as insects and rodents.

Greening Your Yard
Less yard waste and less work.

**REDUCE PRUNINGS**
Reduce plant trimmings by selecting dwarf varieties of plants and shrubs that require less pruning.

**USE GROUND COVER**
Plant ground cover instead of grass whenever possible to reduce grass clippings.

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN**
Design landscaping areas that require low maintenance. Replace turf area with recycled stones/bricks, rocks and mulch (shredded wood chips).

For more detailed information on these topics, visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling.
Reducing your yard waste with

Grasscycling, Composting & Other Ideas

This information is available in an alternate format by calling 240-777-6480.

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