

Spring Lawn Maintenance Tips to Help Prevent Stormwater Pollution!

1. **Mow High** – 3” or more for vigorous roots and to shade out weeds.
2. **Let the Clippings Lie** - Do not sweep leaves or grass clippings into the street where they can wash into the storm drain.
3. **Reduce/Eliminate Fertilizer Use** – Lawns older than 10 years need only grass clippings. Younger lawns need nitrogen. Look for 10-0-0 on the bag!
4. **Reduce Herbicides** – If you have weeds, aerate annually and power rake.
5. **Reduce Pesticides** – If you have pests, visit <http://www.maine.gov/dacf/php/gotpests/> for advice on how to deal with them.
6. **Water Wisely:**
 - a. **Do Not Overwater:** Excessive runoff wastes both water and chemicals you may have added to your lawn.
 - b. **Direct** downspouts to a depressed area or garden bed so the water soaks into your yard instead of rushing out to the street.

Visit These Sites for More Information



http://www.thinkblumaine.org/homeowners/lawn_garden.htm



<http://www.maine.gov/dacf/php/pesticides/yardscaping/index.htm>



<http://www.cumberlandswcd.org/yardscape/>