

LEAVE IT ON THE LAWN

GRASS CLIPPINGS

The City of Austin requests that property owners consider the impacts of grass clippings on the street and other paved areas. Grass clippings have the following impacts on our streams and lakes if they are allowed to enter the City storm sewer system.

Keep Grass Clippings Off-Street and Other Paved Areas

- Grass clippings contain phosphorus, the nutrient that turns lakes green with algae
- Grass clippings from actively growing lawns have 4 to 5 times more phosphorus content than fallen autumn tree leaves
- One bushel of fresh grass clippings can contain 0.1 lbs of phosphorus – enough to produce 30 to 50 pounds of algae growth if it finds its way to a lake or river
- When mowing, grass clippings should be directed away from the street, driveways, sidewalks, or other paved areas. Curbside storm sewers can transport grass clippings (along with other street debris and dirt) to near-by lakes, rivers and wetlands.
- Grass clippings blown on the street, driveways, sidewalks or other paved areas during mowing should be swept up and returned to the lawn or composted

If you have any questions, please contact the City Engineer's Office at 507-437-9950

