

# Healthy Lawn Care

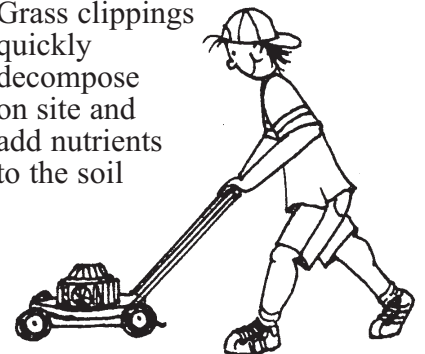
## *the water-wise way...*

**Experts say, “It’s the best lawn care anywhere!”**

Have a beautiful lawn with minimal effort and expense!

Fortify your turf grass against disease and pests with these simple, low-cost care tips.

	Recommended	Avoid	Reason
<b>Fertilize</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☺ Use slow release organic fertilizer with a 3-1-2 ratio</li> <li>☺ Divide 100 by the first number on the bag to calculate the amount of fertilizer to supply 1 lb. of nitrogen per 1000 sq. ft. per year</li> <li>☺ Apply no earlier than mid-April</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⊗ Repeated applications of synthetic fertilizers</li> <li>⊗ Fertilizers with a high nitrogen content</li> <li>⊗ Weed and feed combination products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organics increase microbial activity in the soil</li> <li>• Synthetics cause salt buildup and kill beneficial microbes</li> <li>• High nitrogen fertilizers cause thatch and encourage brown patch</li> <li>• Grass should be fed when growth is vigorous</li> </ul>
<b>Irrigate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☺ 1 to 1 ½ inches per week</li> <li>☺ Infrequent deep watering</li> <li>☺ Early in the day</li> <li>☺ Nozzles that release large water droplets</li> <li>☺ Slow application to avoid run-off</li> <li>☺ Use rain sensor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⊗ Frequent shallow watering</li> <li>⊗ Watering late in the day</li> <li>⊗ Nozzles that release water in a fine mist</li> <li>⊗ Run-off</li> <li>⊗ Watering when rainfall has been adequate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To encourage grass roots to grow deep into soil so the turf can withstand droughts</li> <li>• Mists of water evaporate</li> <li>• Run-off wastes water and contributes to mosquito breeding sites</li> </ul>
<b>Mow</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☺ Set mower at its highest setting</li> <li>☺ Cut off no more than one-third of the length of the grass blade</li> <li>☺ Mow as needed to maintain proper height</li> <li>☺ Leave grass clippings on the lawn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⊗ Scalping the grass at the beginning of the season and routinely cutting it too short</li> <li>⊗ Waiting too long to mow so that more than one-third is cut</li> <li>⊗ Bagging the clippings and putting on the curb</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Longer grass blades shade the ground, keeping soil cooler and weed seeds from germinating, and help lawns develop deeper roots</li> <li>• Grass clippings quickly decompose on site and add nutrients to the soil</li> </ul>



Just grow it and mow it...don't throw it in the trash!