



FREE

**Go
Green**

LAWNCARE TIPS



MOW HIGH - RECYCLE CLIPPINGS

- Mow at least 3" high
- Return clippings to recycle nutrients
- Sweep or blow clippings from walks and driveways onto the lawn
- Taller grass crowds out weeds and promotes deeper roots
- Deeper roots help the lawn survive droughts



FERTILIZE IN FALL FOR BEST RESULTS

- Fall is the best time to fertilize your lawn
- Be patient in the spring - wait until May to fertilize
- Don't fertilize if the ground is frozen or saturated with water
- Don't guess, soil test for proper fertilizer recommendations



CHOOSE LAWN-TYPE FERTILIZERS

- Choose lawn fertilizers with no phosphorus (the middle number) and follow the directions
- Beginning Jan. 1, 2012, it is illegal to apply phosphorus fertilizers to home lawns, unless a soil test indicates phosphorus is required or you are establishing a new lawn.
- Confirm spreader setting before applying



CLEAN UP - AVOID SURFACE WATER

- Maintain a **NO APPLICATION** zone near lakes, rivers, streams and storm drains
- Never discharge clippings near lakes, rivers, streams or drains
- Sweep fertilizer granules from walks and driveways onto the lawn
- Wash your spreader on the grass



WATER SMART

- Don't soak your lawn and avoid night watering
- Watering should not produce puddles; lighter, more frequent watering is best
- Brown lawns are OK; dormancy is a natural response to drought, however, some water may be necessary during an extended drought of more than a month
- Following Go Green LawnCare Tips will reduce the amount of water your lawn needs

MICHIGAN STATE
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Be Phosphorus Smart!



[www. BePhosphorusSmart.msu.edu](http://www.BePhosphorusSmart.msu.edu)

For more lawn tips see:
www.turf.msu.edu

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