

The "Don't Bag It"[®] Lawn Care Plan will save you time, energy and money, too!

Why

- It's good for the environment
- It's easy
- It's good for your lawn

How

- Mow your lawn weekly
- Never cut more than top 1/3 of grass leaf
- Let clippings fall back onto lawn*

Fact

- Does not contribute to thatch

* Use a mulching mower or, retrofit your mower with mulching blades. Remove bag and close off discharge chute after consulting with manufacturer/distributor.

The "Don't Bag It"[®] Lawn Care Plan is an environmentally sound, labor-saving program which promotes a strong, healthy lawn. It combines the latest research in turf care with time-tested, proven principles:

Fertilizing - Select a slow-release product with a 3-1-2 or 4-1-2 ratio of nutrients or a similar organic fertilizer. Apply at moderate rates to promote slow, even growth and reduce runoff.

Watering - Apply 1" of water every week. Use a straight sided container or rain gauge to measure quantity applied.

Mowing - Increase mowing frequency slightly so that no more than 1/3 of the leaf blade is removed at each mowing. Allow clippings to fall back into the turf to decompose.

It's good for the environment! Between March and September, the volume of residential solid waste increases from 20% to 50% because of grass clippings. Clippings strain the garbage collection system and may use valuable landfill space. The "Don't Bag It"[®] Plan eliminates this problem at the source.

Most people use more fertilizer and water than is necessary to maintain a beautiful lawn. Fertilizer runoff can pollute surface and groundwater. Water is a valuable resource we need to conserve.

It's easy! You don't have to stoop down every 10 minutes to empty your mower bag or haul each bag to the curb. Those who don't bag report a 38% decrease in time spent mowing even though frequency may increase slightly.

It's good for the lawn! Grass clippings left on your lawn will **NOT** contribute to thatch, but will return proper levels of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium to the soil resulting in a beautiful lawn.

It saves money! Each time you mow and don't bag you are fertilizing with a free, natural, slow release fertilizer ... the grass clippings! This means less supplemental fertilizer is needed, saving you money. By not bagging clippings you can also save on trash bags.

Contact the "Don't Bag It" Hotline at the Montgomery County Extension office:
281 713-353-9791, ext. 8333 or 409-788-8333 for more information.

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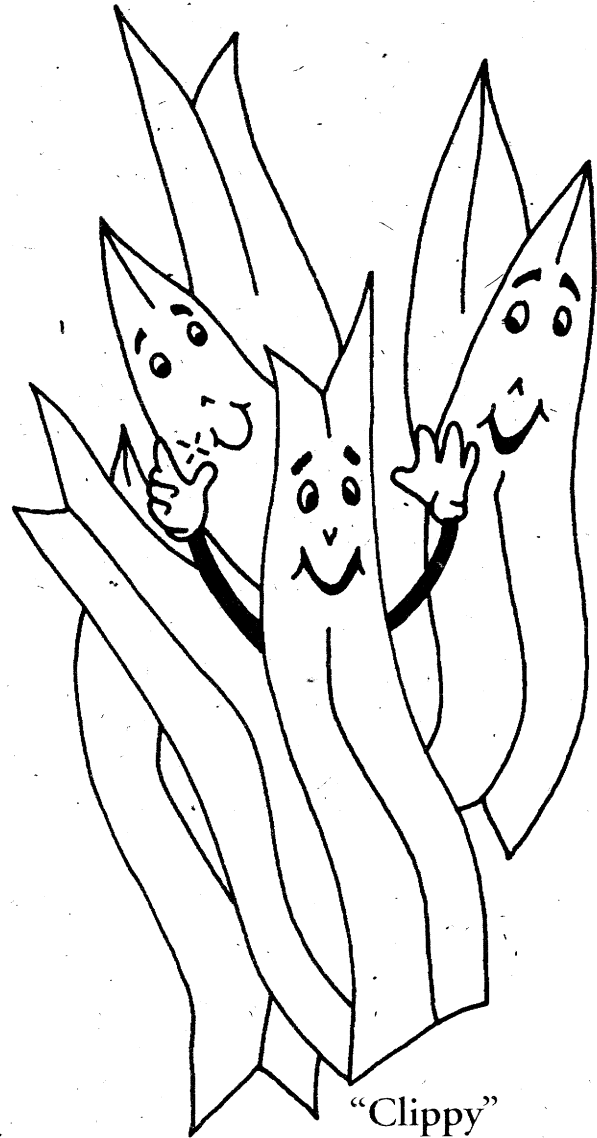
The Montgomery County Extension
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Don't Bag Me!



The Grass Clipping



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