

**For more information on recycling,
source reduction, grasscycling, and home
composting visit:**

www.ccgov.org

www.mde.state.us

www.ewswa.org

www.epa.gov

www.nrc-recycle.org

www.in.gov

www.environmentalencyclopedia.com

www.eia.doe.gov

www.greenmanshow.com

**Cecil County Government
Department of Public Works
Solid Waste Management Division**



GRASSCYCLING & HOME COMPOSTING

**Cecil County Department of
Public Works
Solid Waste Management Division
Facilities:**

Central Landfill
758 East Old Philadelphia Road
Elkton, Maryland
410-996-6275

Woodlawn Transfer Station
565 Waibel Road
Port Deposit, MD
410-658-6646

Stemmers Run Transfer Station
45 Stemmers Run Road
Earleville, MD
410-275-2794



Cecil County Central Landfill
758 E. Old Philadelphia Rd.
Elkton, MD 21921
Operating Hours: Mon.—Sat.
7:30am to 3:30 pm
Phone: 410-996-6275
www.ccgov.org

Cecil County Grasscycling & Home Composting



GRASSCYCLING:

What is Grasscycling?

Grasscycling is a source reduction activity in which grass clippings are left on the lawn after mowing. It is also a form of self maintaining lawn care. Grasscycling allows you to recycle valuable nutrients back into your lawn while saving money on fertilizers.

How do I Grasscycle?

- ◆ Mow more often, but cut less
- ◆ Frequent mowing will produce smaller grass clippings which breakdown easier to release nutrients into your lawn
- ◆ Always mow when the grass is dry
- ◆ Sharpen your mower blades at least two times a year

What are the benefits of Grasscycling?

- ◆ Grasscycling saves a lot of effort
- ◆ No more emptying mower bags
- ◆ No more putting clippings into bags or containers
- ◆ No more dragging heavy clipping bags to the curb for pickup
- ◆ Grasscycling saves about 40% of time spent on traditional lawn chores

Mulching Leaves

Rather than raking leaves, you might want to consider leaving them where they are. After all, it is nature's way of recycling. Given a little time, leaves will decompose into rich humus. Leaves contain all of the nutrients that your lawn needs.

Almost all lawn mowers sold in the last 10 years have been marketed as mulching mowers. Your lawn mower can not only help you grasscycle, but it can also be used as a leaf mulcher.

How do I mulch my leaves?

- ◆ Set the mower to normal three inch height
- ◆ Walk slowly while you mow
- ◆ Do not wait until all of the leaves have fallen
- ◆ Do not mulch when leaves or grass are wet

What are other uses for shredded leaves?

- ◆ Apply to planting beds
- ◆ Put a two to three inch mulch blanket to protect tender root systems
- ◆ Add shredded leaves to the compost pile
- ◆ Shredded leaves will decompose 75% faster than whole leaves
- ◆ Avoid applying mulch until after the first hard freeze

Important things to remember when composting:

- ◆ Oxygen is very important
- ◆ Stir, poke, and turn your compost pile
- ◆ Keep a balance of brown (leaves/sawdust) and green (fruit and vegetable peelings) materials in the pile.
- ◆ Put the compost pile in a sunny area. Sunlight heats up the compost and makes it decompose faster.

What should I compost?

- ◆ Apples
- ◆ Bananas & Peels
- ◆ Beans
- ◆ Bread
- ◆ Cabbage & Broccoli
- ◆ Carrots & Celery
- ◆ Coffee grounds & filters
- ◆ Egg shells
- ◆ Potatoes & skins
- ◆ Tea bags

Other compostable materials:

- ◆ Grass & Garden Waste
- ◆ Cornstalks & flowers
- ◆ Leaves & Hay
- ◆ Rope & String
- ◆ Soil & Wood Ash

Don't Compost:

- ◆ Vegetable Oil
- ◆ Fat, Butter, & Dairy Products
- ◆ Bones
- ◆ Meat