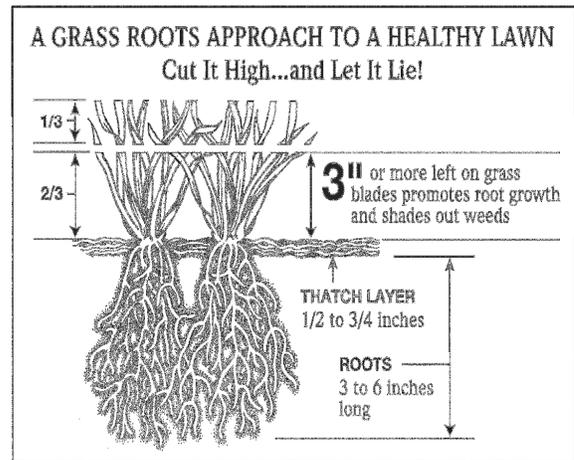


Healthy Lawns and Gardens = Healthy Water

Help prevent pollution to all Wayne County's waterways including Lake St. Clair, the Detroit River and tributaries by participating in healthy lawn and garden practices. For instance, when soils and plants are healthy they naturally resist disease and pests - allowing property owners and gardeners to reduce or eliminate the use of pesticides and fertilizers. Healthy lawn and garden practices save time and effort and promote a beautiful landscape.

Simple principles that individuals and homeowners can follow for a healthy lawn and garden include:



- 1) Build fertile soils with organic matter such as compost or mulch. Use a mulch (shredded leaves, grass clippings or compost) around plants and on the soil to resist weeds and retain moisture.
- 2) Select plants suited for the site and climate conditions.
- 3) Mow your grass at a high setting and let the short grass blades fall back onto the lawn.
- 4) Select a slow-release fertilizer to promote steady, uniform growth.
- 5) Mix grass clippings with leaves and soil to make a backyard compost pile.
- 6) Reduce the use of insecticides, herbicides and other pesticides on your lawn or in your garden.

If you follow these simple principles you not only will have a healthy yard and garden, but you will also help prevent pollution to the Great Lakes. All of our actions affect our water resources, so do your part to help prevent pollution. Want more information? Contact the Wayne County Department of Public Services 24-hour Environmental Hotline at 888-223-2363.