

## Leave grass clippings on the lawn

Leaving grass clippings on the lawn after mowing is the natural way of breaking down grass, also known as grass-cycling or grass mulching. The next time you mow, try leaving clippings on the lawn for a natural way to get a green and lush yard.

### It's good for your lawn:

- Short clippings will quickly break down, returning nutrients to the soil.
- Clippings help protect the soil and increase soil health by keeping moisture in the ground.

### It's good for you:

- Save time and energy by not collecting and disposing of clippings in the green bin, bagging in paper yard waste bags and lifting bags of grass.
- Save money by reducing the need for paper yard waste bags.
- Save water and fertilizer, as your lawn will stay more hydrated from the clippings.

### It's good for the environment:

- Saves space in your green bin, so the bin doesn't fill up as quickly and reduces the need for paper yard waste bags.
- Reduces the amount of waste put out for collection and processing.
- Grass clippings are accepted in the compost facility but are even more beneficial when left on your lawn.



### How to leave clippings on the lawn

You don't need a special lawn mower – just remove the bag and mow to leave clippings on the lawn.



Cut grass when the surface is dry and keep mower blades sharp. Follow the 1/3 rule: mow your lawn often enough so that no more than 1/3 of your grass is cut. You may need to raise the height of your mower. This frequent mowing will produce short clippings that will break down quickly.

Mulching mowers cut grass blades into small pieces, allowing the clippings to settle into your lawn without clumping. They are sold at most yard and garden stores, nurseries, and home supply stores.

Put grass clippings in your green bin for composting.

- Put grass clippings in loose in bin; or
- Use a paper yard waste bag to prevent clippings sticking to the bin.