



C.R.O.W. JOINT POWERS

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Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Environmentally Friendly Lawn Maintenance

Summer is here! It is time to begin thinking about lawn care. Current lawn maintenance practices may negatively impact water quality. It is everyone's responsibility to protect our water resources. Here are some helpful tips to responsibly care for your lawn.

Leaves and grass clippings that escape from the yard eventually end up in the water system. During decomposition of lawn waste, bacteria consume oxygen making it difficult for fish and other aquatic life to survive. To prevent this ensure that all grass clippings and leaves are composted or disposed of in a sealed bag.

Composted leaves and grass clippings provide essential nutrients to your lawn. Applying grass clippings and leaves to your lawn is as effective as fertilizing, and it's free! To increase decomposition time, chop leaves and grass clippings with a power mower. Plus, using leaves around rose bushes and landscape plants provides excellent winter mulch.

Allowing your grass to grow 2 to 3 inches makes for a naturally healthy lawn. Longer grass shades out unwanted weeds without the use of pesticides. A longer lawn requires less water and tolerates heat much better.

Restore shoreline habitat. A 30 foot buffer strip of native vegetation along the shoreline reduces erosion and filters run off which improves water quality, as well as providing essential habitat for fish and wildlife.

Small efforts by individuals can make a big impact. To learn more contact the Crow River Organization of Water (C.R.O.W.) at (763)682-1933 Ext. 3.