

# Is Your Yard As Green As You Think It Is?

## Storage and Disposal of Yard Clippings

- Keep leaves and grass out of streets, drainage ditches, storm drains and creeks
- Leave grass clippings on the lawn. They are a natural fertilizer.
- Compost plant clippings, leaves, excessive grass clippings, and other plant material or call your garbage company to organize curbside collection.
- Protect landscaping materials from wind/rain by storing them under tarps.



Visit [cleanwatercampaign.com](http://cleanwatercampaign.com) to learn how to be a solution to water pollution.

## Lawn Specific Tips

● Use electric powered lawn equipment instead of gas powered whenever possible.

● Set blade higher on mower. This reduces stress to the grass and helps develop a drought and pest resistant root system.

## Composting

● Try composting clipped leaves, pine needles, yard trimmings, grass clippings and other vegetation in your yard.



Questions or comments about this utility bill insert? Contact Gwinnett County's Stormwater Management Division at 678-376-6929.

## Fertilizer

- Test your soil for nutrient levels before you apply fertilizer. Contact the Gwinnett Cooperative Extension Service for soil testing kits at 678-377-4010.
- Do not apply fertilizer before heavy rain is forecasted.



**Did you know?** Pesticide is the generic term for insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides.

## For additional info please visit the following websites:

- [www.cleanwatercampaign.com](http://www.cleanwatercampaign.com)
- [www.caes.uga.edu](http://www.caes.uga.edu)
- [www.georgiaturf.com](http://www.georgiaturf.com)
- [www.ent.uga.edu/pest2002/](http://www.ent.uga.edu/pest2002/)
- [www.epa.gov/pesticides](http://www.epa.gov/pesticides)
- [www.turfgrass.com](http://www.turfgrass.com)

## Pest Management

- Read the label.
- Store pesticides in covered containers.
- Instead of treating your lawn to control fleas on your pet consider using prescription flea drops instead.
- Control pests and diseases by rinsing plants, pruning and hand picking, setting baits/traps.
- Try nontoxic or least toxic methods and products such as traps or horticultural oils and insecticide soaps.