

# Press Release

## HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

### Department of Public Works



PUBLIC SAFETY  
“Ensuring a Safe  
Harford”

EDUCATION  
“Preparing Now,  
Building for the Future”

EFFICIENCY IN  
GOVERNMENT  
“Governing Smarter”

ECONOMIC  
OPPORTUNITY  
“Growing and Sustaining  
Harford’s Prosperity”

ENVIRONMENTAL  
STEWARDSHIP  
“Protecting Our  
Environment”

QUALITY LIVING  
“Safeguarding What is  
Important to Harford  
County Citizens”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 25, 2009

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## GRASS-CYCLING

### *Don't Bag Grass!*

(Bel Air, MD) – Grasscycling is the natural recycling of grass clippings by leaving them on the lawn when mowing. It is a simple, proven, and effective way to help conserve landfill space while saving time, work, and money. The benefit is a greener, healthier lawn.

County Executive David R. Craig feels this is an economically feasible alternative for citizens who are inconvenienced by the closing of the Tollgate Yard Waste site.

“I encourage everyone to utilize this proven, effective, and environmentally friendly method of managing their yard waste.”

A study in Fort Worth, Texas found that homeowners who quit bagging grass clippings saved an average of 35-minutes per mowing or seven hours of yard work over a six-month period; and this study did not take into account delivering bags of grass clippings to a yard trim drop off site.

Any lawn mower can be used to grasscycle, no special equipment is necessary. Simply remove your mower’s collection bag. Many manufacturers have attachments or special designs that improve a mower’s grasscycling performance. Local retailers can provide more information.

There are several tips that aid in making grasscycling successful:

- Mow when the grass is dry.
- Keep your mower blades sharp.
- Set your mower at the proper height.
- Mow often enough so you do not remove more than 1/3 of lawn height each cut.

Grasscycling does not cause thatch and clippings left on the lawn decay quickly and release nutrients back to the established grass.

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