



City of Summit **CUT IT AND LEAVE IT** Program



SAVE MONEY & TIME ~ IMPROVE YOUR LAWN ~ REDUCE WASTE

**Improve the health of your lawn and save time & money
by cutting the grass and leaving the clippings on the lawn!**

***Grass clippings reduce weed growth and soil erosion, help retain vital
moisture for your lawn, and are a natural fertilizer.***

Grass clippings can also be used as mulch, and can be mixed directly into your soil, to moderate soil temperature and reduce compaction and runoff for your flower beds and vegetable gardens. Fresh or composted grass clippings offer essential organic material that can be added into your garden soil without the use of excessive fertilizer. Whether your soil is heavy or sandy, grass clippings offer equal benefits, leaving any lawn naturally healthy.

With the ***Cut It and Leave It Program***, you will not have to buy lawn mower bags and you can avoid the routine trip to the Summit Transfer Station to drop off your clippings. You'll spend less time and money on lawn care products, including fertilizer, while still distributing nutrients back into your lawn. ***Cut It and Leave It*** will return up to 2 pounds of nitrogen to your lawn for every 1,000 square feet. However, another 1.5 pounds of nitrogen should be added for ideal conditioning.

Grass clippings are a major part of New Jersey's municipal solid waste stream. By recycling grass clippings back into your lawn, you can reduce the amount of waste going into the landfill and the amount of material incinerated. By reducing the community's waste stream and the amount Summit pays for transferring waste, this practice saves Summit taxpayers money.

TIPS:

- Mow your lawn correctly by taking off about 1/3 of the length of the grass, or leaving it about 2.5 to 3.5 inches high
- Buy a mulching mower which chips the grass into fine particles that fall neatly down to the roots of the grass, blocking weeds, shading the soil, and retaining water moisture.

