

Keep your lawn green and our water clean!

DO Leave clippings on lawn

Leaving grass clippings on your lawn after mowing has many benefits that include saving homeowners time and money! If some clippings got into the street, please blow or sweep those back onto your lawn where they can become natural fertilizer.

DO Compost and use as mulch

Grass clippings contain nutrients that can help to feed your garden! Clippings are mostly water—they will evaporate and decompose quickly, releasing their nutrients back into the soil.

DON'T Put clippings in the street

Leaving grass clippings or other yard debris in the street, sidewalk, or storm drains is a violation of city codes. Additionally, these items can cause dangerous conditions for cyclists and environmental harm.

DON'T Trash grass clippings

Support the environment by not putting grass clippings in the regular trash. Remember that you should never place any yard waste in the recycling bin.

For more information:

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(636) 282-2378
www.arnoldmo.org

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday, 8:00am to 4:30pm



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Code Compliance

Grass Clippings



What you need to know.

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Residents and landscapers must keep grass clippings out of the street and storm drains. Blowing grass or other yard debris into the sidewalk, street, or storm drainage system is *prohibited* in the City of Arnold.

Grass clippings, leaves, and other lawn debris can cause a number of environmental and safety concerns if homeowners are not careful.

There are rules for grass clippings?

Within the City of Arnold, it is prohibited to leave your grass clippings on the sidewalk, street, or neighboring properties. Most cities, counties, and even state governments have similar regulations for clippings.

What is the danger of leaving grass clippings in the street?

Grass clippings, leaves, and other lawn debris can clog storm drains, resulting in streets and private property flooding. Storm drains flow directly to local waterways untreated. Grass clippings add fertilizer chemicals and unnecessary nutrients to our waterways, which help feed harmful algae blooms.

In addition to environmental harm, grass clippings can create a safety hazard. When blown into the street, clippings can create a slippery and dangerous surface for traveling motorcyclists and bicyclists.

What am I supposed to do with my grass clippings?

There are a few different options, but the best and simplest is to *leave the clippings on your lawn*.

Using a mulching mower puts clippings back into the turf and keeps the nutrients where they belong. Should you choose to use a discharging mower, please be sure to point the blower toward your property (away from the street) to prevent clippings from leaving the lawn. You may also choose to bag your clippings, but they may not be disposed of in your regular refuse containers. City residents are encouraged to compost clippings on their property or contract with the City's waste hauler, Republic Services, to pick-up bagged clippings, leaves, and other yard waste.

When finished mowing, please be sure to use a blower, broom, or rake to clean up any grass clippings or debris that have inadvertently made their way into the street, sidewalk, or storm drain.



Benefits of leaving clippings on your lawn:

Reduced Watering: Grass clippings contain about 80% water and decompose quickly when left on the lawn, assisting in keeping moisture in the soil for longer.

Reduced Fertilizing: Grass clippings contain nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, and other trace nutrients. Leaving your clippings can supply a majority of your lawns fertilizer needs.

Reduced Air Emissions: Reducing the tonnage of grass clippings that are hauled away by your waste service will reduce exhaust emission from hauling vehicles.

Saved Time: Mowing can be done faster when you no longer stop and bag clippings. But don't leave those clippings in the street!

What should I do if I see grass clippings on the street?

Do not drive over grass clippings! Any vehicle could lose traction on the road due to clippings, but the risk is especially high for motorcyclists and bicyclists. Slow down or switch lanes to avoid injury.

If you know who is leaving their clippings in the road, please share this brochure! Feel free to educate your friends, family, and neighbors about the many reasons why grass clippings should stay out of our streets and water ways.

