

# Turf Tips



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## GRASS CLIPPINGS

Is it better to leave grass clippings on the lawn, or is it better to take them off? We are asked this question on a regular basis, and our answer is always the same. If you can see the grass clippings clumping on your lawn, then remove them. If not, leave them on the lawn to return valuable nutrients back into the soil.

All summer long, tons of grass clippings are taken into our transfer station on Armstrong Avenue, Georgetown. It is costing Halton Hills thousands of dollars for the pick up and transportation of the clippings to a landfill site. By leaving your clippings on your lawn, you will be doing your part in reducing the amount of waste going for landfill.

Before you can begin leaving grass clippings on your lawn, you must first maintain healthy lawn care practices. This means, that your lawn should be properly fertilized with a good quality fertilizer. This will encourage your lawn to grow at a reasonable rate, and keep it strong and healthy. It is also essential that your lawn receives 3/4" of water twice a week, and is mowed at least once a week. Ideally, lawns should be mowed every 4 to 5 days. This will reduce the length of the grass clippings, and subsequently speed up the rate of decomposition. Also, don't forget to keep your mower blade razor sharp.

Grass clippings are a valuable resource to your lawn. They contain over 4% nitrogen, 2% potassium and .5% phosphorus -- all of which are essential plant nutrients. They are also the three main nutrients found in fertilizer. Grass clippings are also between 20% to 30% protein. The protein is rapidly attacked by soil bacteria and fungi resulting in fast decomposition. As a result, grass clippings do not contribute to thatch.

Bagging grass clippings began in 1950 when the first mowers with catchers were produced. Since then, the bagging of grass clippings has become a standard practice. However, now that research indicates grass clippings are beneficial to your lawn, mulching mowers have appeared on the market. A mulching lawn mower is a good investment for those of you who are looking for a new mower.

NEXT WEEK: COPING WITH WATER RESTRICTIONS

# Weed Man®

WE CARE FOR YOUR LAWN!



This is a weekly lawn care column.

For additional information contact Duncan or Eileen

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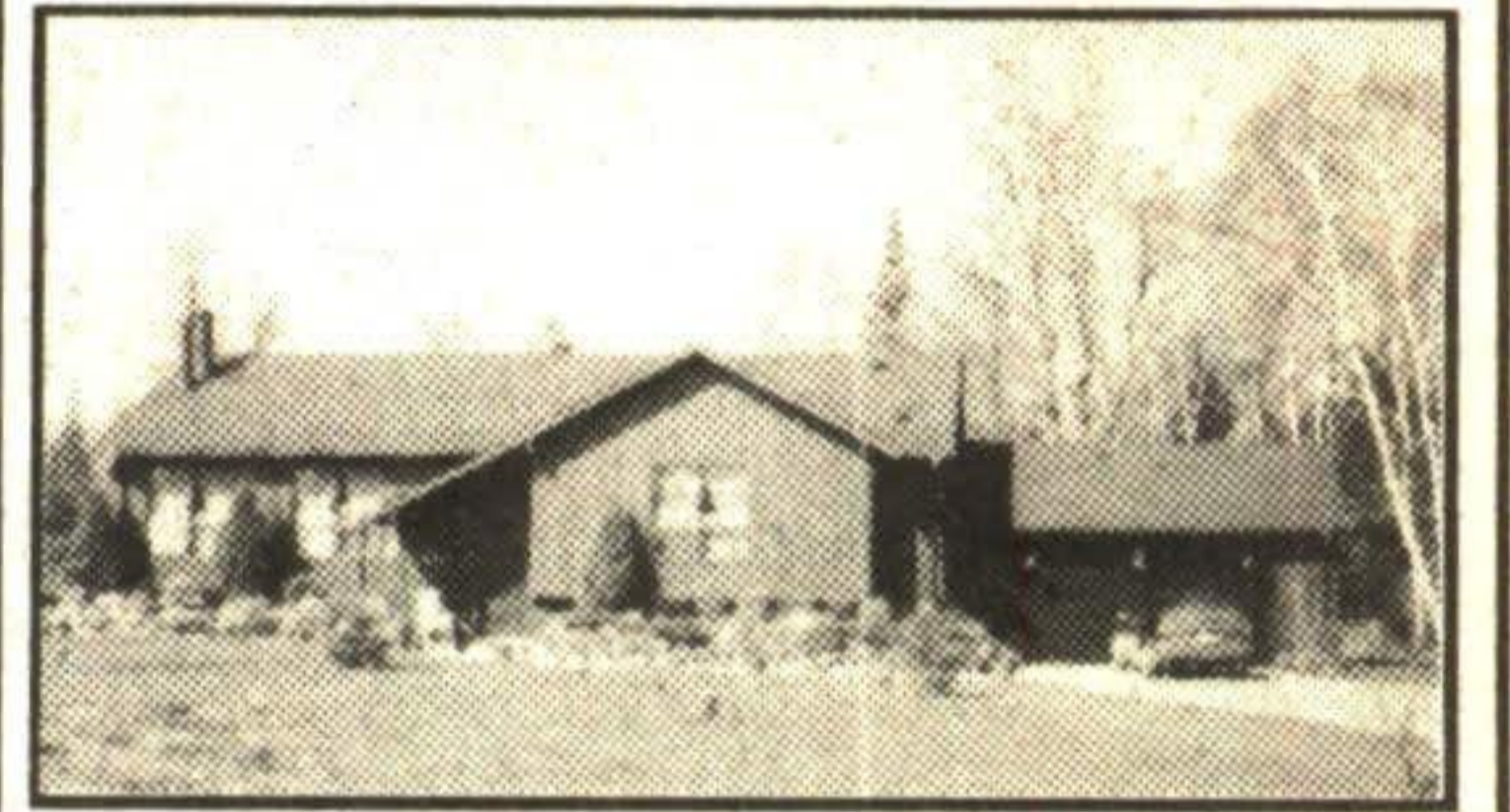
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Just off the entry there is a charming den that has a brick fireplace and a door leading to the enclosed sun porch, the perfect setting for casual entertaining. The gracious and inviting living room is divided dramatically by lovely pocket doors from the formal

dining room.

A delightful dream kitchen is brimming with cupboards galore and every conceivable convenience, gleaming hardwood floor and sunny eating area. This lovely kitchen has been tastefully blended into the design of the home also has access into the sun porch.

On the second storey there are four bedrooms with gorgeous pine floors that have been lovingly restored. Just off the master bedroom there is a cozy sitting room or library with French doors to a front balcony.



On the third storey there is a walk up attic that is unfinished but has unlimited potential for a studio, nanny's suite, etc. Also enjoy the comfort of the new high efficiency gas furnace, in addition to the central air conditioning in



summer. The detached double car garage has a loft that has tremendous potential as a future guest house or summer studio, or use your imagination.

Many of the windows in this classic home are either leaded glass, beveled glass, or stained glass.

This exquisite home has been tastefully decorated and impeccably maintained. The quality, fine details and appointments make this fine home truly gracious and elegant.



Step back in time and experience the elegance and grandeur of days gone by through classic architecture. This exquisitely restored stately residence offers many original architectural details found only in classic older homes. This exclusive landmark property is one of Georgetown's finest historical homes CIRCA 1885. A picturesque piece of history tastefully restored to preserve its classic charm and elegance.

Set in a parklike neighbourhood of well kept homes, this fine residence is only a stroll to schools, shops and transportation. Set on a mature treed property, it is further enhanced by extensive landscaping. Flagstone steps and walkway lead up to the inviting front porch.

Gracious entry hall has plush broadloom and greets guests and family with warmth. The centre hall plan provides access to entire house without undue traffic thru other rooms.

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