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HEALTHY WATERSHEDS START AT HOME.

We all live in a watershed, and everything we do in our own yards impacts the health of the watershed. By safeguarding water quality at home, we are making our watershed safer for everyone.

Sustainable

LAWN CARE

COLUMBIANA SOIL &
WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT





WHAT MAKES A HEALTHY LAWN?

Lawns are a great place for people and pets to relax. However, they aren't very environmentally friendly.

- Excess fertilizer runs off lawns and negatively impacts streams and aquatic wildlife.
- Pesticides used on lawns can be harmful to animals and people.
- Cost of fuel for lawn mowing is expensive and releases greenhouse gases.

HOW CAN I MAKE MY LAWN MORE SUSTAINABLE?

WHAT CAN I DO INSTEAD?

Soil Test

Testing the soil will let you know what nutrients your grass actually needs, as well as when it needs to be fertilized. Soil testing is recommended in the spring or fall.

Mow High and Let It Dry

Mowing grass "high" (anywhere from 2.5 to 4 inches tall) prevents weed seed germination, lowers soil temperature, and reduces water loss. Instead of removing cut grass from your lawn, let it dry and decompose back into the grass. This returns nutrients to the soil and reduces the need for fertilizer.

Replace Your Lawn

If you want a productive lawn alternative, consider planting native plants that support pollinators and wildlife! Lawns can also be converted into gardens for growing food.

WHICH NATIVE PLANTS ARE BEST FOR MY YARD?

There are native plants for every type of soil, water availability, and style preference! Contact Columbiana SWCD for planting recommendations specific to your yard.



Native plants make an excellent addition to landscaped areas - consider adding a pollinator patch, rain garden, shade garden, or grassland to your yard. Your lawn can be a unique hotspot for wildlife!

