

# Healthy LAWN-CARE

**YOU WANT:** a beautiful, healthy lawn and yard that is safe for your kids and pets, but you don't want to spend a lot of money and you don't have a lot of time.

**WE ALL WANT:** healthy yards that support pollinators, birds and wildlife; clean water in wetlands, lakes, rivers and groundwater drinking sources; enough for future generations.

## 5 CHEAP TRICKS

### 1 *Smart* SPRINKLING <sup>1"</sup>

LAWNS ONLY NEED 1in OF WATER *About 20mins*  
PER WEEK INCLUDING RAIN = *2x per week.*

Turn off your automatic sprinkler system and only turn it on when you need it OR install a rain sensor THAT WORKS!

### 2 *Free* FERTILIZER

LEAVE GRASS CLIPPINGS ON THE LAWN.



*Fertilization 1x per year around labor day. Sweep up any grass clippings or fertilizer that fall on streets and sidewalks to keep them out of the storm drain.*

### 3 MOW *Less*

Lawn doesn't need to be mown as often during dry spells.

### *Mow* BETTER!

MOW HIGH – AT LEAST 3" <sup>4</sup>  
Taller grass has deeper roots, needs less water, and is more resistant to weeds.



### 5 LEARN TO *Love* THE WEEDS

DANDELIONS, CLOVER AND CREEPING CHARLIE PROVIDE EARLY SEASON NECTAR FOR BEES AND POLLINATORS

Historically, lawns have had a mix of species, including clover and creeping thyme.

*If you use herbicide, spot treat only instead of spraying your whole lawn.*



### GO *Beyond* THE LAWN! <sup>EXTRA CREDIT</sup>

CHALLENGE YOURSELF TO REPLACE PARTS OF YOUR LAWN YOU DON'T USE WITH NATIVE PLANTS, SHRUBS, AND GARDENS.

More beauty, more pollinator and wildlife habitat, less stormwater runoff pollution.

Learn more at: [www.mnwcd.org](http://www.mnwcd.org)