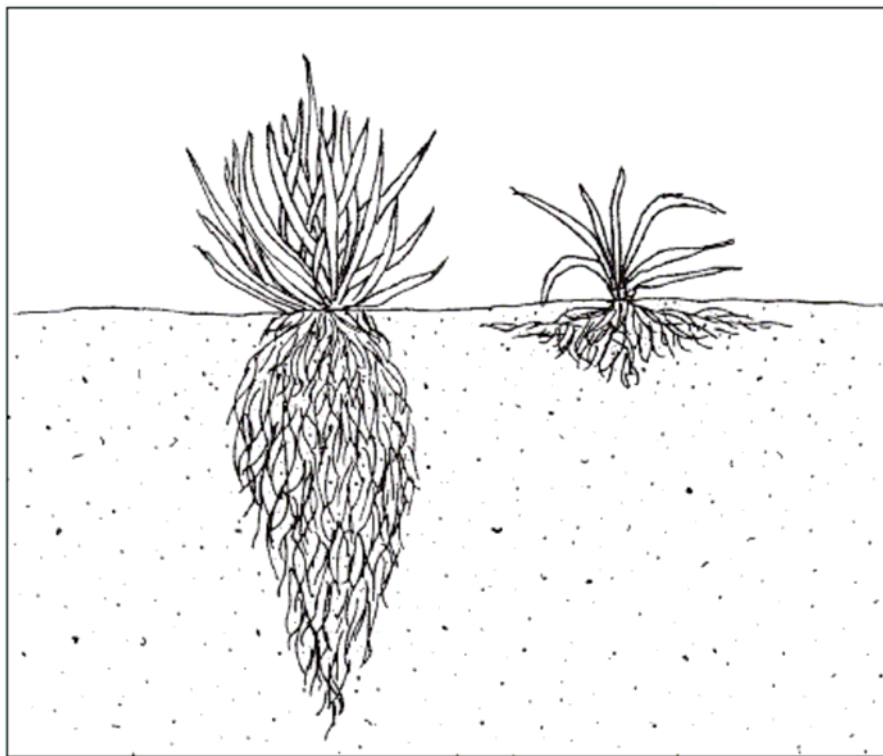


Lawn Care the Environmentally - Friendly Way



Know Your Lawn Mower

How a lawn is mowed can help or hurt lawn health. Even the choice of lawn mower and its maintenance can make a difference. Gas-powered lawn mowers produce the same amount of air pollution in one hour as driving a car for 350 miles. Consider electric power or reel-type push mowers if you have small lawn areas to manage. Keep the mower blade sharp so grass blades are cut cleanly, reducing moisture loss and limiting disease spread. A mulching blade cuts grass clippings into very small pieces so they can be left on the lawn without clumping.

Always try to mow when the grass is dry to prevent spreading disease problems. Mow the lawn to the recommended height for the grass variety but never less than two inches. Grass plants have a hard time recovering from mowing if they have little blade left with which to photosynthesize. Reduce plant stress by never removing more than one-third of the blade at a time. The recommended mowing height for standard lawn Kentucky Bluegrass is 2 ½ inches.

To learn more or report possible illegal discharges to the storm drain system, call the Village of Beecher at (708) 946-2261.

(Source: Clean Water Fact Sheet, produced by NEMO and Sea Grant Connecticut)