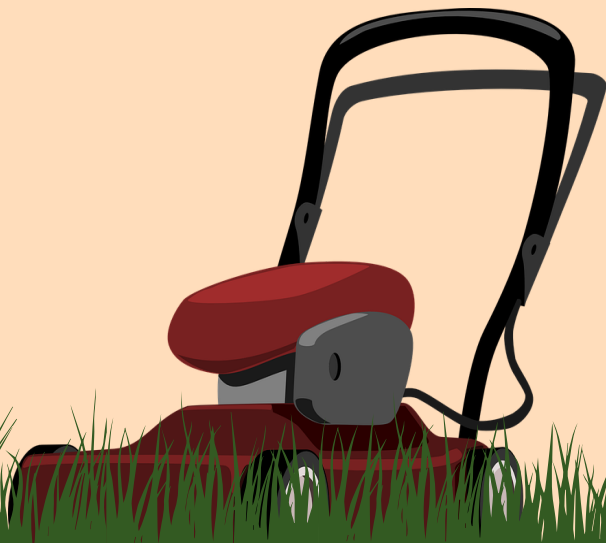


# LAWN CARE

..... FOR .....

# CLEAN WATER



**Macatawa Area  
Coordinating Council**

*A Cooperative Effort Among Units of Government*

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# STEPS TO PROTECT OUR WATER

Typical lawn maintenance activities like mowing and fertilizing can be harmful to water quality if not done properly. Follow these simple tips to make sure that your lawn protects Lake Macatawa!

**Fertilize fairly.** Test your soil first to make sure you only apply what your lawn needs. More is not better. Excess fertilizer can be washed away when it rains and end up in drains, streams and lakes!

**Mow masterfully.** Keep your grass 3" or higher to promote a healthy lawn that needs less fertilizer and water. Return clippings to the lawn where they can be recycled into fertilizer. Keep clippings out of storm drains and surface water. They can act like fertilizer in water too and increase the growth of algae.

**Watch watering.** Lawns need about 1" of water per week applied in small amounts. The best schedule is 15 minutes per day between noon and 4pm. Do not over water to the point where water runs off your lawn into the storm drain.