

# WEST WYOMING BOROUGH

## NEWSLETTER



### Important Dates

#### April 2013

**April 1 @ 7:00pm**  
**Council Work Session**

**April 8 @ 7:30pm**  
**Council Meeting**

**April 8 Bulk Pickup**

**April 4th -**  
**Yard Waste Pickup**  
**Atherton Park to 8th St.**

**April 11th -**  
**Yard Waste Pickup**  
**8th St. - Exeter Line**

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[www.westwyoming.org](http://www.westwyoming.org)

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### **There will be a bulk pickup on April 8th**

Residents may not put out any building materials, ammunition, electronics, car parts or tires, or any hazardous type waste. For items containing Freon, the Freon must be extracted and a certificate stating so from a licensed refrigeration expert must be taped to the item. Freon items include: air conditioners, refrigerators, etc. Residents could place boxes containing various items so long as they do not exceed a five foot cubic area.

### **RECYCLING**

We have sent out letters and forms to all the local businesses. The letter and form are really easy and quick to fill out. The form is for your recycling hauler information which we will contact as well as including any totals that you have for your post consumer waste. We will use that information towards our grant total number when we apply for the municipality. Any questions please let Walt know at [wstevenswwb@gmail.com](mailto:wstevenswwb@gmail.com)

The West Wyoming Recycling Containers are located behind Hose Company #1. Recycling can be dropped off any day of the week. The borough accepts newspaper, magazines, office paper, books, cardboard and commingled items. The borough is encouraging residents to recycle; this will not only help the environment, but lower the borough's garbage tonnage totals thereby controlling costs. The following is the list of acceptable items for recycling. Commingled Food and Beverage Containers, #1 & #2 Plastic Containers. Numbers are located on the bottom of plastic container. #1 Recyclables include: Soda, water, flavored beverage bottles, salad dressing bottles, peanut butter jars, and mayonnaise jars. #2 Recyclables include: Milk Jugs and laundry detergent bottles, shampoo, drain cleaners, aspirin bottles. Please no plastic sheets or packing materials. Please empty and rinse bottles. Aluminum, tin, and food service cans. No foil or aluminum tray. Glass bottles and jars (no lids). Please no windshields, window glass, dinnerware or ceramics. Newspaper, Magazines, and Office Paper Recycling includes newspapers and everything delivered with it - including inserts, coupons, etc. All clean and dry paper including: office paper and shredded paper, magazines, junk mail, phone books, writing paper (all colors), computer paper, Xerox paper, catalogs, and brochures. Cardboard Containers include corrugated cardboard boxes, cereal boxes, cake boxes, frozen dinner boxes, paper egg cartons, soda/beer carrying boxes, paper grocery bags, gift boxes, and shoeboxes. Please flatten or cut boxes to fit into the collection container.

### **Should I Remove or Leave Grass Clippings on the Lawn?**

Nitrogen is the most frequently applied nutrient in lawn fertilization. Clippings contain nitrogen and other nutrients. It is astounding that people pay hard earned money for lawn fertilizer only to remove the clippings that contain it and send it to the curb! When returned to the lawn, clippings recycle free nutrients in an organic, slow-release form that promotes steady grass growth. Returning clippings reduces the amount of supplemental nitrogen fertilizer required by lawns although does not eliminate it entirely.

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One thousand square feet of bluegrass lawn generates about 200 pounds of clippings annually; 75 percent or 150 pounds of this is water. Leaving clippings on the lawn will result in healthier grass. The add something synthetic fertilizers don't by breaking down quickly and encouraging beneficial microorganisms and earthworms. These microorganisms also convert atmospheric nitrogen into a form your lawns can use.

Clippings left on the lawn means no bagging and hauling, saving both human and fuel energy.

Proper lawn care requires regular mowing and produces large quantities of heavy grass clippings. Disposal is inconvenient and expensive and takes up space in our compost yard. Too many grass clippings in the compost create foul smelling gases because they pack together tightly and allow little oxygen in the pile.

An alternative is to leave clippings on the lawn, which saves labor and promotes a healthy lawn. Keep mower height at 3 inches (3.5 inches) in very hot weather. This will shade the roots and prevent weed growth. Mowing should remove no more than 1/3 of a blade of grass for optimal health and less clumping of grass clippings.

The idea that clippings left on lawns will cause thatch has been disproven. Thatch is a brown, spongy material consisting of dead grass stems and roots.

Mary Pat Appel, horticulturist

### **Caring for Young Trees**

If you have had a new tree planted last year, there are steps you should take this season to ensure your tree will be healthy and have a long life.

Watering a young tree this season is critical! If you want our tree to grow quickly, keep it well watered. Lack of water is why most young trees die! Fertilizer is not necessary and can even do it harm at planting time. Fertilizer is salt and can damage young roots that are trying to grow. Many of our street trees are already in soils that contain salts from our de-icing winter roads.

How much is enough? Give your tree 10 gallons of water (5 gallon buckets work well) once a week. Continue giving it at least 10 gallons once weekly throughout the summer. Frequent shallow watering can do more harm than good. It is important to give your tree a thorough soaking.

Mulch with wood chips no more than 3 inches deep and taking care not to let the mulch touch the trunk. DO NOT allow string trimmers or mowers to come in contact with the bark!

Taking the above steps will result in a healthy tree and lower the occurrence of insects and disease.

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