

BOBBY LAWN **NEWSLETTER**



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TURF TIDBITS

Here are some tidbits about grass that you may or may not have heard before.

First let's look quickly below the ground. 90% of the weight of grass is in its roots. A single grass plant has 387 miles of roots. There are more than 330,000 miles of root per square foot. On an average city lot of 4000 square feet there will be more than 1.3 billion miles of roots. This may seem like a lot of root but not many realize that there are microscopic roots and root hairs.

Above the ground there is also an amazing plant. Grass plants are 70 to 80% water. Grass clippings are 90% water. Grass clippings contain 4% nitrogen, 2% potassium and 0.5% phosphorus. An average city lot of 4000 square of grass will contain 6 grass plants per square inch, more than 850 plants per square foot, and more than 3.3 million plants in total.

What good is grass you may ask? A well maintained lawn looks nice. There's a plus. Grass areas affect people's moods. It creates feelings of

serenity and happiness. Who doesn't enjoy a stroll through the park. Where else can you have a picnic, or a backyard barbecue. Your backyard is great for entertaining during the summer months. Lawns increase your usable living space, a place for the kids to play, an area for the dog to run, a place to sit in those new lawn chairs on a warm summer evening talking with the neighbours for those of you who dare to invite them over, or even a place for the in-laws to camp out.

Grass makes an excellent filter. It filters noise, it filters odour. It filters millions of tons of dust and dirt that are released annually into the atmosphere. Grass absorbs carbon dioxide, and in doing so produces oxygen. An area of grass 20 ft. by 30 ft. (600 square ft) produces enough oxygen for one person.

Lawns reduce temperature. On a hot summer day, lawns will be 30 degrees cooler than asphalt and 14 degrees cooler than bare soil. Try an experiment here. On a hot summer day go lay in the middle of your driveway for 5 minutes then go lay on your grass. You decide which is cooler.

Turf makes great erosion control. As stated earlier, with up to 90% of the weight of grass in its roots, soil can be held in place quite efficiently from blowing winds and heavy rains.

Healthy dense lawns absorb rainfall six times more effectively than a wheat field and four times better than a hay field. Turfgrasses help purify water entering underground aquifers by acting as a filter to capture and break down many types of pollutants.

Many of the worlds most popular games are played on grass, including football, baseball, soccer, and golf to name a few. Injuries on natural grass are fewer and less severe than those on artificial surfaces.

A well maintained lawn can enhance the value of your home.

reduce allergens, and the likelihood of insect bites and stings.

Turfgrass quietly adds to the beauty of our lives and even our mental and physical health. What other landscaping invites us to walk all over it? Turfgrass is the **only** place to putt, and you know what else? It feels great under your toes.

Well kept, weed free lawns

