



Grass Clippings Policy

The City of Portage Street and Sanitation Department has modified the "Grass ONLY Drop Off Policy". Those wishing to drop-off grass clippings will be required to check-in with on-site personnel and present proof of residency. Once proof of residency is confirmed the resident will be asked to empty the compost bag / plastic bag into a designated concrete bunker located beyond the Office Building at 2303 Hamstrom Road. Please note that other materials including, but not limited to; branches, leaves, twigs, wood, bushes, dirt, other bulk items - should not be incorporated with grass clippings. We encourage residents to mulch their grass utilizing grasscycling techniques rather than bagging the clippings.

Portage Drop-Off Site 2303 Hamstrom Road

May 1st – October 30th
Mon – Fri: 9am to 5pm
Sat: 10am to 2pm

October 31st – April 30th
Mon – Fri: 9am – 3pm
Sat: Closed

Grasscycling

An easy way to reduce the amount of yard waste that winds up in landfills is by grasscycling. Grasscycling is the practice of leaving your grass clippings on the lawn instead of bagging and throwing them away with your trash. Some of the benefits of grasscycling include a healthier looking lawn, saving time, and eliminating the cost for collection and disposal.

Proper mowing is the key to grasscycling: cut your grass 1/3 of the length of the grass at one time. Your grass should be dry and your mower blades sharp. In the fast growing season, you may have to cut every seven days, but in the slower growing season you might only need to cut your lawn every seven to 14 days.

When properly clipped, grass decomposes quickly and releases nutrients back into the soil. Grasscycling also greatly reduces the need for fertilizer because grass clippings return nitrogen to the soil.

Cutting grass shorter and more frequently deprives your lawn's root system of nutrients and moisture. Longer grass blades create more shade, provide the soil protection from the sun and even help squeeze out weeds. If you're interested in home composting or grasscycling visit the Porter County Solid Waste Management District at www.itmeanstheworld.org