

CMG Garden Notes #570

Homework: Turf Management

1. The following could be an email or phone conversation that you are likely to have with a client when serving your volunteer time in your respective Extension offices. How would you engage this client? What questions might you ask her? What kind of recommendations/suggestions would you make to answer this client's questions about her lawn?

From: Tara [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2012 9:35 PM
To: Koski,Anthony
Subject: Turf questions

Dear Tony,

Hi, I got your name from one of my friends, Wes. He has the most beautiful lawn that I have ever seen. I have been trying for 5 years to get my lawn beautiful, to no avail. I don't think actually I know, that I have no idea what to do and when. Would you be able to assist me or put me in contact with someone who could? I live in Highlands Ranch. Thank you so much,

Tara [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@yahoo.com

2. Understanding that the recommended height for mowing most lawns in Colorado (bluegrass, fescue, buffalograss) is 2.5- 3.5 inches, that you should never remove more than 1/3 of the grass height in a single mowing, and that it is recommended that clippings be returned to the lawn - here is a common question on mowing:

I went on vacation (or it has been raining... or my mower needed repairing) and my lawn hasn't been mowed for 2 weeks. The grass is very tall and even falling over. What should I do?

3. You often read and hear that lawns should be watered "deeply and infrequently". What does this mean? Explain this concept to someone who has moved to Colorado from a part of the country where lawns are rarely, if ever, irrigated- understanding that people want something a little more concrete than "deeply and infrequently" (like...How many days every week? How long to run the sprinklers each time the lawn needs watering?).
- What does "deep, infrequent" watering accomplish?
 - Can a lawn be watered TOO "deeply"?
 - Can a lawn be watered TOO "infrequently"?