

# EZ Lawn & Garden™

## *Lawn Care Tips & Statistics*

1. The national average cost to remove leaves is \$374.
2. Turn a long-handled tool into a measuring stick! Lay a long-handled garden tool on the ground, and next to it place a tape measure. Using a permanent marker to write inch and foot marks. When you need to space plants a certain distance apart you'll already have a measuring device in your hand.
3. Gardening for approximately 30 to 45 minutes can burn upwards of 150 calories.
4. Spread compost around plants to ward off disease; put a bit in your potting mix to add slow-release micronutrients; top-dress beds with it to improve soil structure no matter what kind of soil you have; use it to help restore life to soil that's exhausted from years of chemical abuse. Sprinkle it on the lawn spring and fall to encourage the shallow grass roots.
5. Egg cartons make excellent seed starters. Punch a hole in the bottom for drainage, fill with potting soil, plant your seeds and watch them flourish!
6. Leaving a thick layer of leaves on your lawn or garden can create conditions that lead to rotting of the grass or perennials beneath. Rake up the leaves into a pile, use them undecomposed, as mulch, or composting them before you put them in your garden. Before that be sure to shred or mow them. It will hasten their eventual decomposition into composted organic matter. If you leave leaves large, they will mat together and turn into black slime instead of nice, crumbly compost.
7. Less than 2 percent of the insects in the world are harmful. Most are beneficial.
8. Grass absorbs greenhouse gas and converts it into life-giving oxygen faster than native plants. A 2500 square foot lawn converts enough carbon dioxide into oxygen to sustain a family of four!
9. A broadcast or rotary spreader works well when you're fertilizing larger lawn areas. Before filling the hipper, make sure it's closed. It's a good idea to fill it on a tarp, so you can easily gather any spilled fertilizer. Apply fertilizer around the perimeter of the lawn first, and then start to move back and forth across turf in an orderly pattern. Overlap application strips slightly to ensure even coverage.
10. Choose the right rake! Extra wide rakes (36 inches) require more downward pressure to drag leaves across the lawn. A standard-width (24 inches) rake, ideally those with a soft grip, is best. Before you purchase a rake with an ergonomically curved handle.

### Sources:

- 1- <http://www.homeadvisor.com/cost/lawn-and-garden/remove-leaves/>
- 2- <http://www.hgtv.com/gardening/14-simple-gardening-tips-and-tricks/index.html>
- 3- <http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/sgr/ataglan.htm>
- 4- <http://www.popularmechanics.com/home/improvement/lawn-garden/gardening-tips-460109>
- 5- <http://www.greenhousecatalog.com/natural-gardening/>
- 6- [www.benefits-of-recycling.com](http://www.benefits-of-recycling.com)
- 7- <http://www.greenhousecatalog.com/natural-gardening>
- 8- [www.sod.com/installation/ThinkGreen/html](http://www.sod.com/installation/ThinkGreen/html)
- 9- <http://www.diynetwork.com/outdoors/14-tips-for-fertilizing-your-lawn/pictures/index.html>
- 10- <http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/news/2007/10/tip-of-the-day-make-faster-work-of-leaf-removal/index.htm>