



Pet Friendly Lawn Care

Okay, humans. Imagine this: You're about to get into your nice, comfy bed, and you can't wait to snuggle into the covers. You crawl in between the sheets, pull the pillow under your head, and realize. . . someone's sprayed chemicals all over the place! The bed's covered in them! How will you ever get comfy now?

Welcome to our world. Every spring we rush from the house, throw ourselves into the cushy green grass, and before we can finish our first roll we realize -- it's been chemicalized. Those pesticides you spray to kill bugs are poison! Okay, so actually that's probably pretty obvious, even to you. But they aren't just poison to bugs. The neurotoxins in that stuff are bad for pets, too.

Don't get me wrong. We like the grass to be green and cushy as much as you do. But I was pretty sure there had to be a better way than spraying toxic chemicals and planting those little yellow flags all over the place. Here's what I dug up:

Use organic fertilizer to make sure the soil is healthy. Grass needs healthy food, too! Make sure you're growing the right kind of grass! Certain kinds are better for dry areas, Others work best in chillier climates. Talk to your local nursery (the plant kind, not the baby kind).

Don't use pesticides. If the soil and plants are healthy, you shouldn't need them. Try to resist the urge to use herbicides. Dandelions are people too, you know! (Well, you know what I mean.)

If you live in the North, you probably don't really need to water your lawn. If you do water, no matter where you live, only do it about once a week. When you water, **really** soak the ground. If the soil gets wet deep down, the roots will grow nice and deep, and that means more drought-resistant grass.

One last pet-friendly tip. Got a cat? Consider growing some catnip along the edge of the house! Cleo's crazy for the stuff. (No really, I mean crazy!)