Composting yard waste fine, but mulching better

With summer rapidly approaching, some Oakland officials are hoping residents will consider mulching their grass as a means of reducing the amount of clippings to be competed.

the amount of clippings to be com-posted.
"It would really save a lot of time and money," said Thomas G. Waffen, general manager of the Southeastern Oxland County Resource Recovery Authority.
The authority is a consortium that includes the following communities: Berkley, Beverly Hills, Birmingham, Clawson, Ferndale, Hazel Park,

Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Madlson Helghts, Oak, Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak, Royal Oak, Township and Troy, Beglinning Monday SOCRRA communities resume picking up leaves and grass clippings, providing they are separated and placed in biodegradable bags. Once collected, yard waste is collected at SOCRRA's transfer station on Coolidge, between 14 and 15 Mile roads, and transported to the authority's composting center in Rochester Hills.

WHILE SOCRRA communities re-sume composting Monday, two cities

'Mulching (as opposed to bagging) would save everybody. The city doesn't have to collect yard waste and the mulched grass eliminates the need for at least one fertilizing each

> --- Robert F. Deadman Farmington City Manager

season.'

on the western side of the county will begin separate collection for Robert F. Deadman, city manager of

Farmington. They are Farmington and Farmington Hills.

Deadmon is also chaltman of the Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwestern Oakland County. It has eight member communities including Farmington Hills, Southfield, Novi, Lyon Township, Southfield, Novi, Lyon Township, South Lyon, Wirom and Walted Lake.

Vard waste, of course, in solved.

Lake
Yard waste, of course, is mixed
and allowed to decompose into compost, and subsequently used to fertilite lawns, gardens and parks.
Waffeon and Deadman, however,
said that by mulching, homeowners
can reap the benefits as well as saving time and money.

Mulching is the process by which yard waste is cut into fine pieces by the lawamower. Mulched clippings are allowed to simply fall on the ground to be absorbed by the lawn as fertilizer. "Mulching (as opposed to bagging) would save everybody," said Deadman. "The city doesn't have to collect the waste and the mulched grass eliminates the need for at least one fertilizing each season."

SOCRRA COMMUNITIES con posted more than 46,000 tons last year, including 24,604 tons of chips and grass clippings and 21,839 tons of leaves, Waffen said.

Students honored for art

Jason Brown of Berkley High School and Staci Kerman of Bir-mingham Groves were first place winners with the recent "Art in the 90s" competition.

Brown and Kerman each won \$500 for finishing at the top of their respective categories in competition cosponsored by Oakland Community College, the Business Consortium for the Arts, Oakland Schools and the Oakland Chapter of Michigan Art Educators. Educators

Brown was the top winner in the two dimension competition that in-cluded paintings and photographs. Kerman finished first in three di-

Kerman finished first in three di-inension competition that included sculpture, pottery and jewetry. Shudi Hood of West Bloomfield High School won \$250 for finishing second in two dimension competition and Erra Liang of Southfield Chris-tian won 1400 for finishing third. There were no honorable mention awards.

awards.

In three dimension competition, Denise Cawley of Mercy High School in Farmington Hills won \$250 for second place and Jessica Joannides of Waterford Mott won \$100 for winning third place.

Bryan Gall of Cranbronk-Kingswood and Angela Puchalsky of Marion each won \$50, taking honorable mientions.

mentions.

THE WINNERS were honored at an awards ceremony at the Prudential Town Center in Southfield, where most of the 160 entries were displayed.

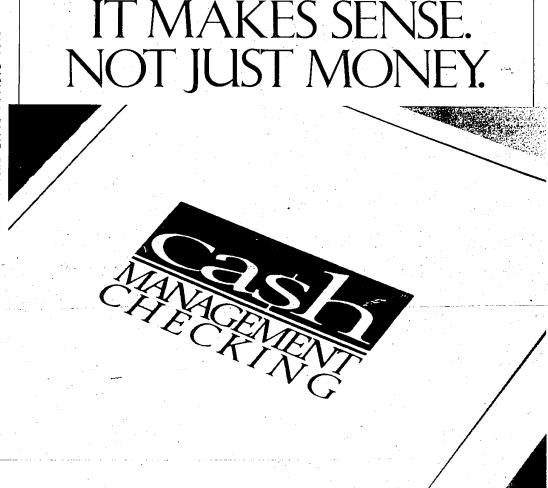
"We were very pleased with the contestants and the quality of the work they submitted," said George F. Keith, dean of academic services at the Royal Oak Campus of OCC. "Competition was tough."

Norma Lambert, a spokesperson for the Bustness Consortium for the Arts, agrees. "There certainly was variety and depth in the competition."

students at public and private shudents at public and private shudents at public for the compe-tition that began in September and ended March I.

ended March I.

The Judges were Irving Berg of Wayne State University, Edward Talent of the Center for Creative Studies in Detroit, and Thomas Steffan of the Kendall School of Design in Grand Rapids.



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