

Lighten up on the carpet

July and August are traditionally vacation months. Time to ease up a bit from the hum of day-to-day work. The same is true for lawn care. It's time to ease up a bit and enjoy that green carpet you've been working on.

There are just four lawn care tips to keep in mind this summer.

1. Mowing. Growth has dropped to a leisurely mid-summer stride, so cut your lawn just once a week now. You don't have to use the catcher every week; let the clippings drop to the ground once in a while.

Maintain the clipping height you started with earlier this year. Check your blades for sharpness. Get them sharpened, if necessary.

2. Fertilizer and herbicides. The point here is "not to." You've already completed your lawn feeding and weeding program. To give your lawn a chemical shot during its mid-summer slump might burn it. Wait until September.

3. Watering. Just a reminder, but be sure to water only about once a week, but for several hours to ensure deep root growth.

Overlap your sprinkling patterns. Set coffee cans around on the lawn if you want to measure rainfall and sprinkling accumulation.

Different soils need different amounts of water. The best way to tell when your lawn has had enough is to

walk on it. If it has a juicy, squishy texture, that's enough.

4. Mulch. Mid-summer's a good time to spread a peat or cocoa mulch around trees, shrubbery, lawn edges, etc. It aids appearance and conserves moisture.

Bus those blues away

Since June 13, organizations, groups, or associations have been able to charter a SEMTA or Detroit Dept. of Transportation (D-DOT) bus to any Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Park for only \$50 round trip. Parks included in this bargain fare are Metro Beach, Lower Huron, Kensington, Stony Creek, Oakwood and Willow Metroparks.

The program runs June 13 through Sept. 4.

Funded through a special program of the Michigan State Highways & Transportation Dept., the metroparks bus special is available weekdays between 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday buses

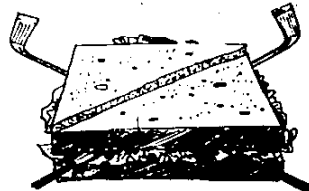
are available between 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

Metroparks offer a range of activities from hiking, biking, sports, swimming, boating, picnicking and nature studies.

Arrangements for this special service may be made by calling SEMTA's Charter Dept. at 581-4503.

Reservations should be made at least three weeks in advance to assure bus availability. All reservations will be taken on a first-come first-served basis. In case of inclement weather, charter reservations for the metroparks special can be cancelled without charge prior to 8 a.m. the day of the scheduled charter.

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