

June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Dear Mayor Mark and Board of Trustees

I am writing in support of the proposed changes to the Village code in regards to the pickup of grass clippings as I will be unable to attend the public hearing this evening. I write this letter as an individual resident. For those who may be reading this letter as part of the public record, I am a member of the Scarsdale Forum Sustainability Committee and Scarsdale Leaf Education Task Force, both of which have proposed discontinuing the pickup of grass clippings.

Picking up grass clippings curbside is an environmentally damaging non-essential service. A service for which there is a readily available alternative for homeowners: grasscycling. The same lawn that generates grass clippings is the best place to dispose of those clippings. Individually we can save water, reduce our fertilizer use and promote a healthy soil. As a community we can reduce our out-of-county trucking, remove a weekly eye (and nose) sore from our roads and redeploy any time or dollar savings to other village needs.

There will be instances where a homeowner cannot or chooses not to leave the clippings on their lawn. As with any other aspect of the village code, there should be a mechanism to address these instances. I believe the proposed code change provides this mechanism by allowing homeowners (free) or landscapers (for a fee<sup>1</sup>) to bring the clippings directly to the Recycling Center at Secor Road.

Grasscycling is easy, but change itself can be a challenge. This change however is worth the challenge. It's the kind of change that we'll look back on in a few years and wonder why we ever did it any other way. And it's a change that will not only give our residents a chance to make a difference, but will allow us as a community to make a significant and very positive impact on the environment.

Thanks as always for your time and service.

Sincerely  
Ron Schulhof

---

<sup>1</sup> It is my understanding that a fee is needed to ensure landscapers do not bring clippings from other communities to our Recycling Center. To the extent there is a way to ensure landscapers only dispose of grass clippings from Scarsdale properties I would support removing a fee for landscapers.