



## Johnson County Government Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Johnson County Launches “Recycle Your Lawn” Campaign

JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS (November 5, 2012) – Anyone who has a lawn has grass to cut and fallen leaves to handle. Rather than bagging up grass clippings and raking piles of leaves, Johnson County recommends recycling your lawn. The new campaign, *Recycle Your Lawn*, encourages residents to skip the bags and return the nutrients right back onto the lawn by using your mower to mulch the grass and leaves.

The County created two public service announcements which feature the character Father Nature. Father Nature, or “Papa” Nature, appears when he finds residents improperly managing their yard waste. Father Nature is a larger than life character who advises when managing your lawn to “mow it high and let it lie.”

Grass clippings decompose quickly and recycle valuable nutrients back to the lawn. Fallen leaves can also be finely chopped with a mulching mower right onto the lawn. K-State Research and Extension recommends mulch mowing if done properly and research proves it will not lead to thatch. Recycling your lawn is the natural way to go and is a simple, healthy way to manage yard waste and keep it out of landfills and out of storm drains. It also cuts back on time and money spent managing yards.

Dumping leaves and grass clippings in storm drains or near a stream can cause flooding and contributes to water quality problems in our streams. It is illegal to put anything other than clean rainwater down a storm drain.

The two thirty second public service announcements will air on cable stations in Johnson County throughout the month of November and can be viewed at the campaign’s website, [www.recycleyourlawn.com](http://www.recycleyourlawn.com). Viewers can also find more information about mulch mowing and stormwater on the website.

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### About Johnson County

Located in the southwestern quadrant of the Kansas City Metropolitan Region, Johnson County, Kansas is a community of choice with a current population of more than 544,000, making it the most populated of the 105 counties in Kansas, but traditionally having the lowest mill levy in the state. Johnson County offers a vibrant quality of life including nationally recognized schools, libraries and parks where businesses and families choose to locate and call their home. For more information visit the county’s website at [www.jocogov.org](http://www.jocogov.org).

