



# *Living Water*

**Lawn & Tree Care**™



## Thatch Fact Sheet

Thatch in lawns is often misunderstood. Thatch is a layer of living and dead organic matter that occurs between the green matter and the soil surface. Its primary component is stems and roots which buildup faster than breakdown. This creates a favorable environment for pests and disease. Several factors contribute to thatch such as over-watering frequently. Despite popular belief, mulching is good for the lawn and does not lead to thatch problems. Environmental factors contributing to thatch are alkaline or high pH, and soil compaction.

Mechanical dethatching is very destructive to the lawn because the roots are in thatch instead of soil and tear out easily.

### **Solutions:**

- Aeration to alleviate compaction and drainage problems. Cores left on top act as a topdressing, adding a thin layer of compatible soil over the thatch to stimulate microorganisms and aid in breakdown.
- Sulfur to correct the pH of the soil.
- Our organic thatch reducer introduces microorganisms into the environment that break down thatch.

**Give us a call at 1-800-LAWNCARE if you have any questions.**