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To many, summer equals the hum of lawnmowers and the smell of newly mown grass. But the expansive (and often expensive) carpet of green that defines many neighborhoods has the ecological landscaping community considering alternatives. Lawns - and lawn alternatives are featured in this edition of the *Ecological Landscaper*. Join us to explore the following articles:

SHADE GARDENING AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO LAWNS IN SHADED AREAS?

by Judy Eisenberg

Growing the perfect lawn, free of crabgrass and weeds, in shady areas requires high maintenance, excess watering, and the use of chemicals and pesticides. Consider replacing the grass in these shaded areas with native groundcover, plants, or shrubs. [READ MORE »](#)

GOING Organic

By Frank Koll

Maintaining organic lawns and gardens is based on some key principles that guide land care professionals to manage and take care of your landscape. These are the cornerstones of an organic program. [READ MORE »](#)

THOUGHTS on Organic Lawn Care

By Roger Sturgis

Although Roger Sturgis begins this article with the statement that "Organic lawns are the way to go" this opinion piece goes on to discuss the realities of organic lawn care as he sees them. His conclusions may surprise you. [READ MORE »](#)

LAWN ALTERNATIVES

By Elizabeth Gross

The best way to create an alternative to the traditional lawn is to practice what my family calls the "Pluck & Chuck" method. [READ MORE »](#)



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