

EMAIL A FRIEND

EMAIL THE EDITOR



## **lawn losers**

Ah, spring. Time to plant, prune, mow, and make our property come alive in a way that makes Miracle-Gro actually seem like a miracle. But as most of us strive for Stepfordville perfection, there's always that one house, the one ugly stinking house on the block that hasn't been mowed since the Nixon administration.

Fortunately for that individual, Scarsdale has no property-maintenance ordinance, which means simply that no matter how disheveled his yard becomes, the town can't impose a fine.

Frustrating as it may be, there are other, more tactful ways to deal with these not-so-green thumbs. **Fact Finding:** Before you start leaving nasty notes, assess the situation: Are the owners sick? Has their mower broken? Enlist the block's other undesirable resident, the nosy neighbor, to do some sleuthing. **The Golden Rule:** If your research yields nada, and your children fear walking by the home because it's like a horror-flick set, volunteer to have your gardener do a gratis makeover.

Now that's neighborly love! **The BBQ Party Ploy:** Still not cooperating? Invite the offending homeowners to see your greener grass, and learn how you manage it—a lesson that's easier to stomach with a couple tasty burgers.

Melissa Leonard is an etiquette coach and mother of two extremely well-behaved children in Harrison. Visit her website at [www.establishyourselfNY.com](http://www.establishyourselfNY.com).

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