

*When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world.* John Muir



## **TERRABYTE 07.06 – KICK YOUR GRASS HABIT**

You're addicted, and you don't even know it. You've been brainwashed by what has got to be one of the very best marketing campaigns EVER! What's this insidious habit? Why grass, of course! You, like millions of Americans, are addicted to grass – turf – sod – broadleaf – Kentucky blue – Marathon -- the green stuff.

You can't fool me – the symptoms are undeniable. You worry and obsess about it. You spend countless hours on your weekends grooming it, OR you pay someone else to spend hours grooming it. You dump tens of thousands of gallons of water on it each year to keep it alive. And, if you've been completely sucked into the grass psychosis, you dump fertilizers, pesticides, fungicides, and herbicides on it to keep it up to some inane standard of perfection promulgated by big box stores and the pharmaceutical/petrochemical manufacturers of these products.

Sounds like a conspiracy? It is! Have you seen the advertisements sponsored by the pushers of a serious grass habit? With strains of "happy" music in the background, children, dogs, and supportive parents are shown playing on the green lawn and rolling around on it. Just think of all those disgusting chemicals now on the kids, dog, and parents. Wipes the smile right off your face, doesn't it.

Well, the only way to deal with it is to kick your grass habit cold turkey. Yes, it's more difficult the older you are, but you can do it. The first thing to do is to rip out a 6' – 10' section around the perimeter of the front yard. Plant yourself, or have your gardener plant, common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) or creeping thyme (*Thymus serpyllum*). Use 2" or 4" plants (those are the small plastic containers) and place each plant about 6" apart in a grid that looks like an "X".

