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How to Reduce Pollution Using a Robotic Lawn Mower

By Kerry Clabaugh

Even if you are not an environmentalist, the price of gas will definitely make you a conservationist. Gas prices continue to climb. Personally, going to the gas station with my little red gas can is not a trip of leisure, it has always been a chore.

It is common knowledge that gas powered lawn mowers are serious environmental polluters. It is estimated that 1 hour of lawn mower use equals driving an SUV 100 miles. I have read that lawnmowers contribute up to 5% of the nation's pollution. Even more alarming comparisons and statistics can be found on the internet.

Fertilizers and weed killers are contaminating our rivers and streams. Herbicides that run off yards in Minnesota affect the Mississippi Delta just as much as those used in Arkansas. We worry about terrorists attacking our water supply as we cumulatively lay down the spring and fall weed-and-feed.

Even as more cities are putting on water restrictions, lawn sprinkler companies are hard pressed to keep up with demand. During the driest times one only has to drive a few blocks in the early morning to get a free car wash. Even in a pouring rain sprinklers systems are going full tilt.

So what can we do to keep our yards looking nice without doing harm to the environment? Robotic lawn mowers are one answer.

Robotic lawn mowers can mow on a schedule and return to the charging base by them selves all season long without human intervention. This has two benefits, the most obvious is more time to do other things. The second is the less time people spend doing yard work the less money they are going to spend on their yards. Translation: fewer herbicides and pesticides equals less underground water contaminates.

By allowing the grass to get too high and then cutting it too low causes thatch. Thatch is that long dead cut grass that smothers the roots and prevents the morning dew from reaching the tender roots on top, it also acts like a blanket in the hot sun. By allowing the robotic lawnmowers to cut frequently only the very tips of the grass are cut. Since the clippings are very small they break down very rapidly and become a natural fertilizer. This means the need for less water and less application fertilizer, yet a

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much lusher and greener yard.

Robotic lawn mowers run on batteries, they burn no gas or oil. It is estimated that it costs only \$7.00 a year in electricity to mow all season long. That is quite a savings!

Due to higher quality components robotic lawn mowers built today have a life expectancy of about 10 years, the same as a quality riding lawn mower.

In summary, robotic lawn mowers emit no pollution, are fully autonomous, and will dramatically reduce the need for watering and fertilizers while making your yard even more green and beautiful. Save the planet and save the sweat.

Kerry Clabaugh runs

www.bamabots.com

, a website dedicated to robotic lawnmowers sales and

education. Kerry is also interested in your experiences with robotic lawnmowers. He can be reached toll free (877) 383-6054

Easy Does It With Robotic Lawn Mower

By Thomas Champeval

Everything is automated nowadays. Seems like every manufacturer's aim in innovating a product is to make it all faster and simpler. Washing and cleaning has been automated since long ago. Now here comes robotic lawn mower. You thought that mowing the lawns was a breeze after those industrial machines came out right? Well, those became obsolete with the entry of these intelligent robotic lawn mowers.

Imagine mowing the lawn right there under the cool shade of your front porch. All you need is to push the button on the remote, look at the robotic lawn mower, and make sure it is right where the grass is thick.

The robotic lawn mower effectively mows lawn of regular size, within its average run time of 1.5 hours. But it depends on the power of the mower, of course. The bigger it is, the longer the run time it will have. It is equipped with a rechargeable battery to power up the blades. The downside though is that the battery needed recharging for 24 hours. Well, that's an entire day. If your lawn were so big, like an acre big, you'd have to purchase an extra battery for you to be able to mow the entire area in a day.

For the robotic lawn mower to be within the area, you would have to setup a perimeter wire. It's a special kind of wire that comes with the robot mower. Some wires can be planted underground. This sounds to be a taxing job, but you can do it in less than an hour if you have a relatively small yard. The

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wires be detected by the robotic lawn mower and then would turn the other way. You wouldn't want it straying away towards your neighbor's lawn, would you? With this perimeter fence, you can protect your flowerbeds and garden. Run the wire around it and the robotic lawn mower would leave it alone.

Slopes up to 20 degrees should be tolerable for the robotic lawn mower. Protruding tree roots should not be a problem either. With its robotic blades, the lawn mower would run around the perimeter wires first and proceed to the middle area, moving in a V pattern. This means that the robotic lawn mower might cover a certain area multiple times while missing a certain part several times over. Looking on the bright side, you're not the one getting tired anyway.

The cost of the robotic lawn mower doesn't seem to be an issue. It actually costs less than those heavy-duty regular lawn mowers. Given that, if and when you feel that your old trusty lawn mower needs back up or even a replacement, trying the robotic lawn mower might be a good idea.

Robotic lawn mowers sure catch attention. Well, you can always ask your neighbor or pay a kid to trim your lawn, but one way or another, you would have to do it yourself sometimes. And with the robotic lawn mower just waiting for orders at your backyard, lawn mowing would be almost effortless.

Thomas Champeval is a writer for RobotShop.ca, which sells all kind of robots, from the

<http://www.robotshop.ca/home/products/personal-domestic-robots/robot-mowers/index.html>

, to robot

vacuum, roomba, robot toys, lego mindstorms, floorvac and robot kits.



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