

# Fountain Grass



**Biology:** Fountain grass (*Pennisetum* spp.) is an ornamental grass common to the landscapes of homes, commercial sites, and golf courses. However, following years of planting in these landscapes, we now realize that this species produces many viable seeds that drop onto the adjacent turf and then become tough-to-control perennial grassy weeds. Although most of the ornamental grasses cannot withstand short mowing, fountain grass does.



**Identification:** Typically, this grass can be identified by its visible shredded leaf blades in mid- and late summer, which leaves a whitish, wispy looking clump when mown.



Shredded leaf tips. Fountain grass is difficult to mow in summer even with a sharp mower blade.

