

Make a difference (MAD) - Grass cutters' string trimmer

To have an idea of the extent of the issue, we hope map where these string trimmers are found in Singapore. Here's a [preliminary map of sightings shared](#) via [this facebook album](#).

You can help! Find plastic string trimmers and share your sighting.

Information needed

- 1) Photo showing the general situation of where you found the trimmers. See examples below.
- 2) Date
- 3) Time (optional, approximate time is fine)
- 4) Location, e.g., road name, building name, landmark name.
- 5) Number of strings collected
- 6) Your name (it's ok if you prefer not to have your name indicated)



11 Aug, 4 strips collected along this narrow grass verge of Island Country Road and Upp. Thomson Road. By Shirley Ng

Collection period: September school holiday (1 - 9 Sept)

Send your photo and information to Ria Tan

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/wildsingapore>

Email: hello@wildsingapore.com

Please also share if you do NOT find any plastic string trimmers. Such sightings will show that it is possible for grass to be cut without resulting in litter. We already have one such sighting for Pasir Ris Park.

FAQ

1. Why trimmers have to be collected?

These single-use plastic trimmers are a source of environmental pollution. They are made of nylon and do not degrade over time. They remain hidden in the environment and many get washed into our waterways contributing debris and microplastics. *** In addition, these trimmers contribute to microplastics as they are continuously being spun to cut grass.

Write up from Earth Island Journal (Nov 2013)

http://www.earthisland.org/journal/index.php/elist/eListRead/strung_out/

2. Where should I look for these plastic trimmers?

Anywhere near grass which has to be trimmed by hand, e.g., narrow grass verges. Sometimes, large fields of grass are trimmed by tractors and not by hand held grass trimmers. But do have a quick look everywhere. You will be surprised by how common they are.

3. What you can do?

- 1) Help pick these trimmers.
- 2) Collate your collection. Information we need are: -
 - Photo showing the general situation of where you found the trimmers. See examples below.
 - Date
 - Time (optional, approximate time is fine)
 - Location, e.g., road name, building name, landmark name.
 - Number of strings collected
 - Your name (it's ok if you prefer not to have your name indicated)
- 3) Keep the trimmers and dispose of them in a trash bin.

4. Why do grass cutters litter?

They aren't supposed to but in their haste to complete their work, some don't care to keep the spent trimmers or collect those that have been flung off their machines as it takes time to locate them. They also drop many unused trimmers as a large bundle is usually loosely strapped around the grass cutter's belt.

5. ***** Placeholder