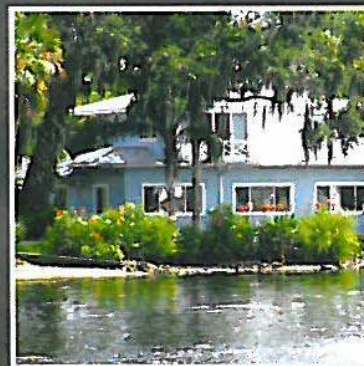


Fertilizer Facts

Use Florida-friendly lawn and garden practices today and you can make a difference in your community. Fertilizers applied improperly can run off lawns into local springs, streams, lakes, rivers and, ultimately, into the gulf or ocean. The results can harm our waterways — and even the plants and animals that depend on our sparkling water for survival. Proper fertilizer application, however, can create a dense lawn that acts as a sponge to absorb nutrients from runoff.



WATER TIPS

Join the community effort to
keep all our waters clean.
It's easy. Here's how:

- ✓ Don't fertilize before a heavy rain.
- ✓ Sweep up any fertilizer spilled on paved areas or any excess on the lawn and place it back in the fertilizer bag.
- ✓ Use only slow-release fertilizer.
- ✓ Leave a 10-foot no-pesticide, no-fertilizer zone around water bodies.
- ✓ Fertilize only twice a year and only during the growing season.

Your efforts will help reduce groundwater nutrient levels now and for the future. At the same time, you will be doing your part to preserve the springs, lakes, rivers, bays and wildlife — the things that make living on Florida's west-central coast special.

For free educational materials about Florida's water resources, visit our online order form at WaterMatters.org/publications or call 1-800-423-1476 (FL only) or (352) 796-7211, ext. 4757.

For information on Florida-friendly landscaping or the Florida Yards & Neighborhoods program, call your county's Extension office or visit FloridaYards.org.

Charlotte Harbor
Environmental Center, Inc.



Southwest Florida
Water Management District

WATERMATTERS.ORG • 1-800-423-1476

This information will be made available in accessible formats upon request.
Please contact the Communications Department at (352) 796-7211 or 1-800-423-1476
(FL only), ext. 4757; TDD only at 1-800-231-6103 (FL only).