

Charlotte County Fertilizer Ordinance

Keep in mind for your spring fertilizations that Charlotte County passed a fertilizer ordinance in March of 2008 for turf applications. The ordinance states that:

- 1) Phosphorus applications shall not exceed 0.25 pounds per 1000 square feet per application and shall not exceed 0.5 pounds per 1000 sq. ft. per year.
- 2) Nitrogen fertilizer must contain at least 50% slow-release Nitrogen.
- 3) If fertilizer is within 3-10 feet from a water body or wetland, a deflector shield must be used on all broadcast spreaders. Fertilizer may not be applied within 3 feet of the water body or wetland.
- 4) No grass clippings, vegetative material, or vegetative debris may be deposited in storm water drains, ditches, conveyances, water bodies or roadways.
- 5) All applicators of fertilizer (except homeowners on their own property) must receive training and certification in a Charlotte County –approved Best Management Practices (BMP) training program.
- 6) Fertilizer may not be applied within 10' of any water body or wetland (or 3' if a deflector shield is used). No fertilizer may be applied to impervious (non-porous) surfaces, and any spillage must be removed.

If you contract with anyone to fertilize your lawn, even if it is a neighbor, they must have the required BMP training certification and the certification decal should be on their vehicle. They must follow the above ordinance rules.