



Marion County Florida Friendly Fertilizer Ordinance

Article V. FLORIDA FRIENDLY FERTILIZER USE ON URBAN LANDSCAPES

Ord. No. 08-35

- Regulates the proper use of fertilizers by ANY applicator
- Requires proper training of commercial and institutional fertilizer applicators
- Establishes training and licensing requirements
- Specifies allowable fertilizer application rates and methods
- Requires the use of Best Management Practices to minimize environmental effects associated with the misuse of fertilizers



Where this Article Applies?

- Any and all applicators of fertilizer and areas of application of fertilizer within the county, unless there's an exemption



How Much Fertilizer Can Be Applied?

- Fertilizer shall be applied to turf/landscape plants at the lowest rate necessary
- No more than 0.7 pounds per 1,000 ft² of quick-release N can be applied per application
- No more than 1 pound total N per 1,000 ft² at any one time



How Much Fertilizer Can Be Applied?

- Cannot exceed the below rates of N annually:

<u>Grass species</u>	<u>Maximum N application rate (Lbs/1,000 ft² /Year)</u>
Bahiagrass:	3 (new recommendation: 1 – 3)
Bermudagrass:	4
Centipedegrass:	2 (0.4 – 3)
St. Augustinegrass:	3 (2 – 5)
Zoysiagrass:	4 (2 – 4)



How Much Fertilizer Can Be Applied?

- For new turf or landscape plants that are being established, a one-time use of starter fertilizer can be applied at a rate not to exceed 1 pound of Phosphorous per 1,000 ft²
- No more than 0.25 pounds of P per 1,000 ft² per application and no more than 0.50 pounds per year can be applied to existing turf/plants
- N or P fertilizers may not be applied unless a soil or tissue test verifies deficiencies



Where Should Fertilizer NOT Be Applied?

- Impervious surfaces
- Within 75 feet of the ordinary high water line of a body of water, including Silver Springs, Silver Run, Rainbow Springs, Rainbow River or Lake Weir.
- 15 feet from the top of the bank of any drainage retention area, canal, wetland or other water body
- 100 feet of a sinkhole or other open karst feature
- Any non-turf area within 30 feet of a water body



Yard Debris Management

- Grass clippings and other vegetative debris shall not be piled or disposed of in a stormwater system, water body or wetland
- Lawn clippings discharged onto a road or curb shall be swept, blown, or otherwise removed and disposed of



Florida GI-BMPs

- All turf managers shall apply the principles embodied in the “Florida Green Industries Best Management Practices for Protection of Water Resources in Florida”
- Exemptions for bona fide farm operations and golf courses

**Florida Friendly
Best Management Practices
for Protection of Water Resources
by the Green Industries**



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County Requirements for Trained Fertilizer Applicators

- All persons applying fertilizer for hire shall be FL GI-BMP trained and certified
- You must register with the county
- You must keep adequate records for the county to inspect on request

