

Lawn Fertilization & Weed Control Recommendations

Lake County Factsheet

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To comply with the State of Florida Springs and Aquifer Protection Act, Lake County Fertilizer Ordinance #2017-55 outlines revised fertilizer recommendations for residential landscapes in unincorporated Lake County, effective 1 November 2018, to reduce the levels of nitrogen and phosphorous in water bodies and improve and maintain water and habitat quality.

You, as the property owner, are responsible for compliance whether you perform your own lawn maintenance or hire a professional. Request your lawn care provider produce evidence of certification 5E-14.117(18), F.A.C. which they must carry when they apply fertilizer. You have a right to know and should know what your lawn care provider uses on your lawn.

The synopsis provided recommends lawn fertilization practices in compliance with Lake County FL's summer fertilizer ban.

<https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/lake/>

DO NOT FERTILIZE WITHIN 15 FEET OF ANY WATER BODY and CLEAN UP ALL FERTILIZER LEFT ON IMPERVIOUS SURFACES.

Early February

If crabgrass is problematic, apply a pre-emergent weed control once night temperatures reach and maintain over 60° for five consecutive days. These environmental conditions encourage crabgrass seeds to germinate.

Early April

Apply a slow release complete fertilizer with a 1-0-1 ratio (i.e. 15-0-15) or 2-0-1 ratio (i.e. 16-0-8).

June thru September

DO NOT FERTILIZE LAWNS & LANDSCAPES DURING THESE MONTHS. Vegetable gardens are exempt from the summer fertilizer ban.

October

Apply a slow release fertilizer with a 1-0-1 ratio or a 2-0-1 ratio. Apply a preemergent herbicide when crabgrass is problematic.

November thru March

Do not apply fertilizer to lawns and landscapes.

UF/IFAS EDIS Publications of further interest:

Pub No	Title	Website
ENH-979	Homeowner Best Management Practices for the Home Lawn	http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ep236
SL-21	Recommendations for Fertilization of Turf Grasses on Florida Soils	http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/lh14
SL-3	The Florida Fertilizer Label	http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ss170
ENH-884	Weed Management Guide for Florida Lawns	http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ep141