

Over the past year, Sarasota County has worked diligently to develop a fertilizer and landscape management code that will reduce nutrient pollution flowing into our bays. Numerous stakeholder meetings were held with combined groups of citizens, environmentalists, state and local government staff and landscape maintenance professionals. The final product is the Sarasota County Fertilizer and Landscape Management Code, Ordinance No. 2007-062.

(Go to scgov.net to view a complete copy of the ordinance).

Things to look for in your lawn maintenance company

Do they...

- Display the required BMP Training Certification Decal on their equipment?
- Use a minimum 50% slow-release nitrogen fertilizer product?
- Use a deflector shield on all broadcast fertilizer spreaders?
- Remove grass clippings from the roadway, storm drains and ditches?
- Promote the benefits of a low maintenance zone around water bodies?

What you need to know about
Sarasota County's

Fertilizer & Landscape Management Code

Questions? Contact the
Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000.

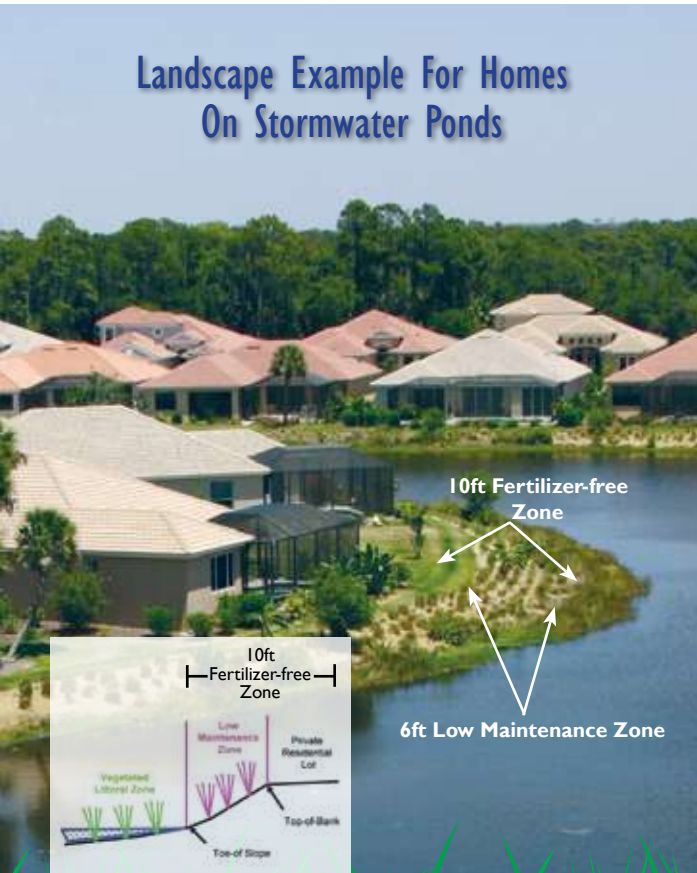
Ordinance No. 2007-062

Post this information near your landscaping equipment to remind you to “do the right thing” in your landscaping practices. **START TODAY!**

Fertilizer Do's & Don'ts:

Highlights of the code are listed here to help you make a difference in your own neighborhood in protecting and preserving our spectacular water playground.

Landscape Example For Homes On Stormwater Ponds



Fertilizer-free Zone:

No fertilizer may be applied to impervious (non-porous) surfaces, and any spillage must be removed. Fertilizer may not be applied within 10 feet of any water body or wetland.

Low-Maintenance Zone:

A six-foot low-maintenance zone of landscape plants appropriate to preventing fertilizer runoff is recommended for any water body or wetland.

What To Look For On Your Fertilizer Label



Nitrogen N
Phosphate P_2O_5
Potash K_2O

7% Slow Release Nitrogen (SRN)

% of Total N as SRN =

$$\frac{7}{14} \times 100 = 50\%$$

(< 50% SRN Sarasota County Req't)

GUARANTEED ANALYSIS

TOTAL NITROGEN (N).....	14.00 %
14.45% Urea Nitrogen (N)*	
SOLUBLE POTASH (K_2O).....	26.00 %
SULFUR (S) Total.....	19.70 %
10.50% Free sulfur (S)	
9.20% Combined sulfur (S)	
IRON (Fe) Total.....	0.96 %
0.19% Water Soluble Iron (Fe)	
MANGANESE (Mn) Total.....	0.48 %
0.1% Water Soluble Manganese (Mn)	
DERIVED FROM: Polymer Coated Sulfur Coated Urea, Sulfate of Potash, Iron Oxide, Manganese Oxide.	
CHLORINE (Cl) Max.....	2.00%
*7.00% Slowly Available Urea Nitrogen from Polymer Coated Sulfur Coated Urea.	

COVERAGE

50 pounds of 14-0-26 fertilizer covers approx. 13,000 sq ft at the application rate of one pound of potash (3.8 pounds of fertilizer) per 1,000 sq ft.

Restricted Season

No fertilizer containing nitrogen or phosphorus shall be applied to turf or landscape plants between June 1-Sept. 30 of each year.

Phosphorus Applications

Shall not exceed 0.25 pounds per 1,000 square feet at each application, and shall not exceed a total of 0.5 pounds per 1,000 square feet per year.

Nitrogen Applications

Nitrogen fertilizer must contain at least 50 percent slow-release nitrogen. No more than four pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet may be applied to turf or landscape plants each year.

NOTE: State of Florida regulations allow a maximum of 0.7 pounds of readily available (soluble) or 1 pound of total nitrogen per 1,000 square feet may be applied at any one time to turf.

Deflector Shields

A deflector shield is required on all broadcast spreaders to prevent fertilizer from being applied within 10 feet of any water body or wetland.

Grass Clippings

No grass clippings, vegetative material or vegetative debris may be deposited in stormwater drains, ditches, conveyances, water bodies or roadways.

Commercial and Institutional Fertilizer Applicators

All applicators of fertilizer (except homeowners on their own property) must receive training and certification in a Sarasota County-approved Best Management Practices training program.

Enforcement

Enforcement actions will take place through the use of county Code Enforcement procedures or civil penalties.