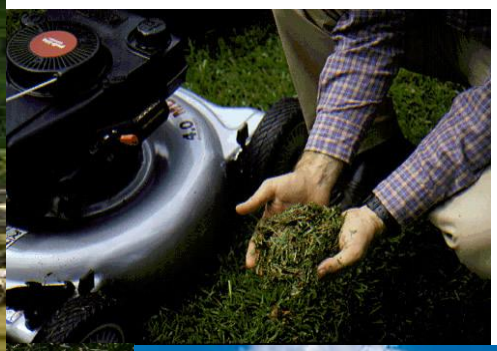
LAKE ERIE STARTS HERE!

Be Wise and Don't Fertilize our Great Lake



Local waterways are impacted when fertilizer is applied incorrectly.

If you fertilize your lawn, practice the 4 Rs of Fertilization:

1. **RIGHT TYPE.** Have your soil tested to determine fertilizer needs and choose a slow-release fertilizer. *Recommended practice:* Use phosphate-free organic fertilizer.
2. **RIGHT RATE.** Soil test results will supply you with the appropriate fertilizer rate. Do not exceed the recommended rate and never apply more than 1.5 pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet. *Recommended practice:* Use mulching blades on your mower and leave the grass clippings on the lawn.
3. **RIGHT TIME.** September is the best time to fertilize lawns when cool season grasses are actively growing. *Recommended practice:* Never apply fertilizer when rain and wind are in the forecast.
4. **RIGHT PLACE.** Proper fertilization techniques save money and protect waterways and wildlife. Avoid fertilizing near streams, ditches, hard surfaces, and slopes. *Recommended practice:* Incorporate native plantings near streams, ditches, and slopes to better intercept pollutants before they enter waterways.

If you rent property, please share this information with your property manager.

To learn more ▸▸▸

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