

Lee County Landscape & Fertilizer Best Management Practices (BMP) Ordinance

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On May 13 2008, Lee County Board of County Commissioners passed a new ordinance regulating the application of fertilizers in Unincorporated Lee County including the following provisions:

- All landscape businesses must be registered with Lee County, Division of Natural Resources.
- Landscape businesses must have at least one Best Management Practices (BMP) certified employee in order to register with the county and to continue working in Lee County.
- There must be at least one BMP certified employee on site when fertilizer is being applied.
- Fertilizer containing nitrogen and/or phosphorus shall not be applied June 1-September 30.
- Fertilizer phosphorus application; 0.25 lbs/1000 ft² per application. Apply no more than 0.50 lbs. P₂O₅/1000 ft² per calendar year.
- Fertilizer nitrogen content and application; no less than 50% slow-release. Apply no more than 4 lbs of nitrogen per 1000 ft² per calendar year.
- Fertilizer shall not be applied to any water body or impervious surface.
- A spreader deflector must be used when applying fertilizer to lawns near impervious surfaces and water bodies.
- Mandatory 10 foot fertilizer free buffer zone near all water bodies and wetlands measured from top of bank.
- Homeowners are to follow the practices outlined and referenced in the ordinance and are encouraged to seek education with the Lee County Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FYN) Program.
- Lee County has a one (1) year grace period from the date of passage before the ordinance goes into effect however violators will be subject to a warning. The ordinance will be fully effective starting May 13, 2009.

To learn more about this ordinance and class schedules please contact the University of Florida Lee County Extension Office at (239) 533-7514 or <http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/>



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Unincorporated and Incorporated Areas in Lee County, Florida

