

KNOW YOUR NUTRIENTS: Fertilizer Regulation in the City of Miami



Fertilizer: Good for your plants; dangerous for our water

Fertilizer is often over-used in landscaping. Nutrients in fertilizers can run off into waterways and cause algae blooms. Algae blooms are a problem because they clog our waterways, turn the water green, smell bad, can kill fish and wildlife, and can also harm people.

A new City of Miami ordinance addresses this nutrient pollution in our waterways by limiting the amount of nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizer users can apply.

THE DOS AND DON'TS



TIME

Don't fertilize your lawn during the **Blackout Period** (May 15 – October 31) or **before a heavy rainfall**



PLACE

Fertilize at least **20ft away** from waterbodies and storm drains. Keep fertilizer only on your lawn



MIX

Use **65% Slow Release Nitrogen** and **0% Phosphorus** in your fertilizer mix (it may say Slow Release on your bag)

THE NUMBERS

The numbers on fertilizer bags indicate the amount of **Nitrogen (N)**, **Phosphorus (P)**, and **Potassium (K)**



NITROGEN

There is 8% Nitrogen in this bag



PHOSPHORUS

There is 0% Phosphorus in this bag



POTASSIUM

There is 24% Potassium in this bag



This ordinance allows for a maximum of **4 pounds of Nitrogen per 1000 sq ft.**

This bag has a nutrient content of 8-0-24

To determine the pounds of Nitrogen per bag, we simply multiply!

Available Nitrogen x Bag Weight = Pounds of Nitrogen

.08 Nitrogen x 50 pounds = 4 Pounds of Nitrogen per bag

This bag meets the requirements!

MORE INFORMATION



miamiwaterkeeper.org/fertilizer



miamigov.com/fertilizer