

## Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Principles

Following the nine principles of Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ below encourages water conservation and reduces pollution.

- **Right Plant. Right Place.**
- **Water Efficiently**
- **Fertilize Appropriately**
- **Mulch**
- **Attract Wildlife**
- **Manage Yard Pests Responsibly**
- **Recycle**
- **Reduce Stormwater Runoff**
- **Protect the Waterfront**

For more information, visit our website at: [www.bocc.citrus.fl.us/waterres/](http://www.bocc.citrus.fl.us/waterres/) or call Citrus County Utilities' Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ program coordinator, Steven Davis (352) 527-5708.



## Irrigation Restrictions

Two days per week based on last digit of address, before 10:00 a.m. or after 4:00 p.m., as follows:

Address ending in 1, 3, 5, 7, 9:  
Wednesday & Saturday

Address ending in 0, 2, 4, 6, 8:  
Thursday & Sunday

## Who To Contact?

**Violations of Fertilizer ordinance:** Citrus County Utilities water conservation office (352) 527-7669

**Report** any spilling, leaking, seeping, pouring, emitting, emptying, or dumping, of substances or materials into stormdrains, retention ponds or water bodies. Road Maintenance (352) 527-7610

**Where to dispose of** fertilizers, pesticides, weed control products, antifreeze, gasoline, paints, oil, propane tanks, and other hazardous waste: Citrus County Solid Waste Management (352) 527-7670

**Illegal dumping:** Citrus County Code Compliance (352) 527-5350

## Available GI-BMP Training

ALL fertilizer applicators must receive certification in an approved Green Industries Best Management Practices training program, except homeowners on their own property. Homeowners should follow the GI-BMPs, but are not required to be certified.

Training is available via:

- In-Person Training
- Online Training
- DVD Training

Visit <https://gibmp.ifas.ufl.edu/> for details about online, DVD or upcoming training locations. To reserve a seat in the next Citrus County training, call (352) 527-5700.



## Citrus County

## A Guide to the Fertilizer and Landscape Maintenance Ordinance



The Citrus County Fertilizer Use and Landscape Maintenance Practices ordinance was adopted in 2014 to allow for maintaining healthy landscapes while promoting the future health of our waters. For more information, visit <http://www.bocc.citrus.fl.us/waterres/>.

### **Fertilizer Applicators**

All applicators of fertilizer (except homeowners on their own property) must be **GI-BMP** certified. Available training options on reverse side.

### **Prohibited Application Period**

Fertilizers cannot be applied if the National Weather Service declares a Flood, Tropical Storm or Hurricane Watch or Warning in Citrus County, or if heavy rain is likely.

### **Grass Clippings**

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

### **Deflector Shields**

Deflector shields must be used on broadcast fertilizer spreaders.

### **Fertilizer-Free Zone**

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

### **Phosphorus**

Phosphorus occurs naturally in Florida soils. We recommend testing soil prior to applying phosphorus to your lawn or landscape.

### **Seeding & Sodding**

Fertilizer containing nitrogen or phosphorus shall not be applied 30 days before or after seeding or sodding a site.

### **Annual Nitrogen Limit**

Nitrogen shall be limited to no more than the following annually:

Nitrogen per 1000 sq. ft. per year:

- Bahiagrass 2-3 pounds
- Bermudagrass 3-5 pounds
- Centipedegrass 1-2 pounds
- St. Augustinegrass 2-4 pounds
- Zoysiagrass 2-3 pounds

### **Maximum Nitrogen Application**

Regulations allow a maximum of 0.7 pounds of readily available (soluble) nitrogen per 1,000 square feet be applied at any one time.

Citrus County encourages no more than 1 lb. of total nitrogen per 1000 sq. ft. be applied at one time.

### **Be Kind to the Environment**

Only apply nitrogen fertilizer to **actively growing** turf. Applying fertilizer to dormant or unestablished turf is a major source of pollution.

### **Prevent Pollution**

Did you know that stormdrains are NOT connected to sanitary sewer systems or treatment plants? In Citrus County, stormdrains can flow directly into our rivers, lakes, bays and the Gulf of Mexico without treatment.

The primary purpose of stormdrains is to carry rainwater away from developed areas to prevent flooding. Yard waste, such as grass clippings, are nitrogen rich. This nitrogen can pollute our waterways, as well as our drinking water supply. Nitrogen also feeds algae blooms and lyngbya that frequently smother and eliminate native vegetation. Disposing of yard waste into stormdrains and other water conveyances causes serious ecological problems — and is **PROHIBITED BY LAW**.

## **Enforcement**

This ordinance is enforced through education and daily patrol. Civil penalties apply. Refer to Municode 66-93 through 66-108 for details.

This ordinance applies to both homeowners and those that apply fertilizer commercially within unincorporated Citrus County.