



## Orange County Fertilizer Ordinance Updates Effective June 20, 2017

### NEW ELEMENTS:

- The areas of property covered by landscape plants are now also covered under this rule, in addition the turf grass areas.
- Application of fertilizers containing Phosphorus are **prohibited** unless a soil test result from IFAS shows a deficiency.
- No fertilizer shall be applied within 15 feet of a lake, pond, stream, water course, canal or wetland.
- Nitrogen in fertilizers must contain at least 50% slow release formulations. By July 2020, this requirement shall increase to 65% if commercially available.
- No more than one (1) pound of Fertilizer containing nitrogen shall be applied during an application.
- ALL commercial applicators (as defined in Section 15-801) shall provide proof of successful completion of the Florida Green Industries Best Management Practices certification program as provided by the University of Florida Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS).
- Vehicles used during applications must show proof that applicator has been trained by displaying decal provided by Orange County.
- Any fertilizer spilled onto streets, driveways, sidewalks, etc. must be put back into labeled container or applied to turf or landscaping per the ordinance.
- Low maintenance zones (vegetated areas that are not mowed, fertilized or maintained) 10ft wide are recommended adjacent to waterbodies.

### EXISTING ELEMENTS:

- Landscape businesses must provide proof of successful completion of a county-approved training program to obtain or renew an Orange County local business tax certificate.
- There shall be no application of fertilizer, containing nitrogen or phosphorus, during the restricted period from June 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>, except by commercial applicators certified pursuant to Section 15-809 or homeowners who have completed an annual educational test found on the Orange County website at: <http://www.orangecountyfl.net/Environment/FertilizeResponsibly.aspx>
- Broadcast spreaders must be equipped with a deflector shield to deflect fertilizer pellets away from impervious surfaces, waterbodies and buffer areas.
- Grass clippings and/or vegetative material/debris **shall not be deposited**, inadvertently or intentionally, **into the street**, into any public right of way, stormwater drain or other water conveyance.
- Failure to comply with the ordinance may result in penalties.

A copy of the Orange County fertilizer ordinance may be found at:  
<http://www.orangecountyfl.net/Environment/FertilizeResponsibly.aspx>

For more information contact the Orange County Environmental Protection Division at  
[orangetogreen@ocfl.net](mailto:orangetogreen@ocfl.net)