



SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE
STEVE BELLONE

Protect our drinking water... Be wise when you fertilize!

Suffolk County Law 41-2007

This law was passed to reduce nitrogen pollution in our groundwater and surface water caused by improper lawn fertilization.

Between November 1st and April 1st, fertilizer applications to lawns are **prohibited**.
Violators may be fined up to \$1,000.



*Photo courtesy of the Washington State Department of Ecology;
Adapted by the Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning*

- Over-fertilizing introduces harmful levels of nitrogen to groundwater and surface waters.
- Pollution can be reduced by applying the proper amounts of fertilizer at the right time.
- Strategic landscaping can lead to healthy lawns with little or no fertilizer usage.
- The best time to apply fertilizer to your lawn is late spring and/or early fall.
- Avoid applying water soluble fertilizer if heavy rainfall is expected.
- Consider the use of native plants which require less water and fertilizer to thrive.



Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning
Division of Water Quality Improvement

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<http://healthylawns.suffolkcountyny.gov>