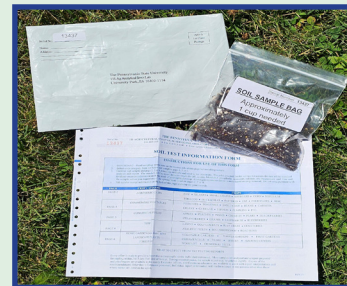


URBAN NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT WATERSHED FRIENDLY STRATEGIES

Be Wise When You Fertilize!
Follow 10 simple strategies to help protect our waterways.

- 1. SOIL TEST:**
Determine if your lawn needs extra nutrients by soil sampling every 1-3 years.



- 4. FOLLOW NUTRIENT LIMITS:**
NO phosphate should be applied unless you are establishing/repairing turf or if a soil test indicates a need.
Available Nitrogen is limited to 0.7 lbs/1000 ft².
Total Nitrogen is limited to 0.9 lbs/1000 ft².

Use slow-release fertilizers whenever possible. Split recommended application rates across the growing season. Only apply fertilizer when the grass is actively growing.

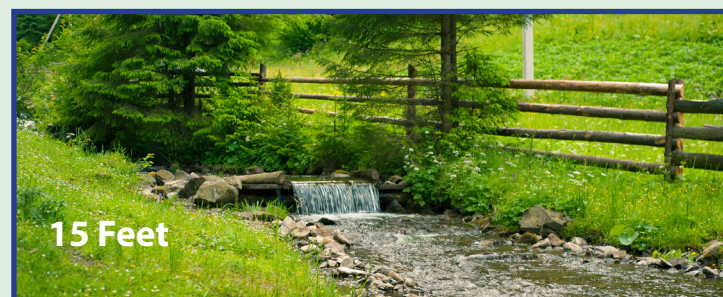
- 8. RECYCLE LAWN CLIPPINGS:**
Retaining your grass clippings and mulched leaves reduces fertilizer need by supplying your lawn with a natural source of nutrients and organic matter.



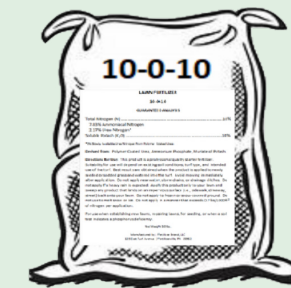
- 9. RAISE THE MOWER DECK:**
Keep the mower height at 3 inches or higher. Maintaining taller grass, improves your lawn's stress resistance and reduces runoff.

- 2. KNOW YOUR LAWN:**
Not all lawn problems can be solved with fertilizer. Understand your site-specific conditions, such soil type and condition, turf age and species, pest presence, and land use to help determine if there are other factors impacting your lawn's health.

- 5. AVOID WATERWAYS:**
Keep fertilizer 15 feet from water bodies. Do not apply fertilizer near water conveyances, like storm drains and drainage ditches.



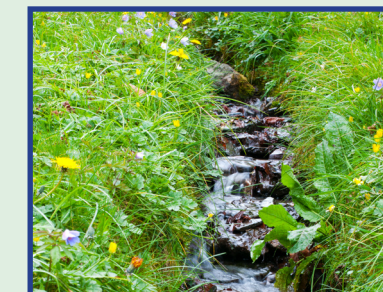
- 10. ESTABLISH STREAM BUFFERS:**
Allow native plants or longer grass to grow along stream banks. This buffer stabilizes stream banks and slows and filters water before it enters the stream.



- 3. READ THE LABEL:**
Read the directions for use to understand how to apply the fertilizer properly and safely. Know how much Nitrogen (N), Phosphate (P), and Potash (K) you are applying. The 3 numbers listed on the bag (10-0-10) represent the percent by weight of each nutrient. Use these values to calculate your application rates.

- 6. WATCH THE WEATHER:**
Avoid applying fertilizer when a heavy rain is expected. Rain events that cause runoff will carry nutrients off-site and into our waterways.

- 7. KEEP NUTRIENTS WHERE THEY ARE NEEDED:**
Sweep fertilizer and grass clippings that land on paved surfaces back onto your lawn.



www.agriculture.pa.gov/fertilizer

