

Fertilizers

One of the keys to survival of our lake is reducing nutrients entering the water. Below are some suggestions that each of us can do at little expense to curb nutrients entering the water.

- No lawn fertilizers or a program that uses no phosphates and a slow release nitrogen. One pound of Phosphorus may produce over 10,000 pounds of wet weeds and algae.
- Apply nitrogen fertilizer when the grass is actively growing to minimize loss of nutrients to nearby water. Begin fertilizing in the spring when temperatures are warm and discontinue before the grass ceases to grow in the fall.
- Avoid applying fertilizer prior to rainy days.
- Perforate lawn periodically and seed and mulch exposed soil (to prevent erosion)
- Remove aquatic weeds and other debris that washes up along the lakeshore so it will not decay near the lake.
- Remove fallen leaves and branches near the lake.
- Remove all geese and duck droppings and deposit in trash containers. PLEASE-NOT the lake.
- Do not feed the ducks or geese!
- Most "starter" fertilizers are 18-24-12. Nitrogen-Phosphorus-Potash. It is the middle number (Phosphorus) that we are really worried about. Remember- one pound of phosphorus may produce over 10,000 pounds of wet weeds and algae. These really fertilize the lake. It just feeds them and strengthens the root systems. Please do not use. In the spring the rain flushes this stuff right into the lake. Remember, we are paying Lycott Engineering to eliminate these nuisance weeds.....

There is a lot of sandy soil around the lake . Sand is very porous and will not hold nutrients. Property owners who are applying a fertilizer containing phosphorus are contributing the number one weed and algae producing agent right into the lake.

Some other choices:

Ringer

10-2-6-
40LB @ \$ 14.97
Home Depot,Lowes,Agway

Milorganite

6-2-0
? @ \$8.87
Home Depot,Lowes

Urea *****

NO phosp. ONLY NITROGEN Grass grows and is Green-
Use fall and/or spring sparingly.
2.5lb@ \$2.99(approx. 250sq ft) 50lb@ \$12.99
Agway , Lowes

Lee Lyman of Lycott also has a NO phosphorus lawn fertilizer that can be purchased through Lycott Engineering (508)765-0101, 1-800-462 8211. This is composed of two types of nitrogen; a fast acting ammonia nitrogen and a slow release (1-3 month) sulfur coated urea.

*A rule of thumb for applying nitrogen to a lawn is one pound of nitrogen per thousand square feet.