

On November 29, 2010 the City of Cape Coral enacted an ordinance regulating the use of fertilizers in the City. Excess nutrients impact the water quality within the City's canal system and surrounding waters. These nutrients can lead to algae blooms, decreased oxygen levels, and fish kills.

These regulations apply to private residents as well as to commercial applicators. Residents are encouraged, but not required, to learn about Florida-friendly landscaping practices by taking a Florida Yards and Neighborhoods class through the City's Parks Department or from the Lee County Extension Service. Commercial applicators are required to earn certification in Best Management Practices (BMPs).

(For a complete copy of the ordinance, go to capecoral.net)

Does Your Landscape Professional...

- Display the required Best Management Practice Training Certification Decal?
- Use a minimum 50% slow-release nitrogen fertilizer product?
- Use a deflector shield on all broadcast spreaders?
- Remove grass clippings from roadway, sidewalks and storm drains?
- Promote the benefits of a low maintenance 'buffer' zone along canals and lakes?



Cape Coral's Fertilizer Ordinance

Look for
the Decal!



QUESTIONS? CONTACT
CITY OF CAPE CORAL
ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES DIVISION
AT 239-574-0785

Ordinance No. 86 - 10

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES DIVISION

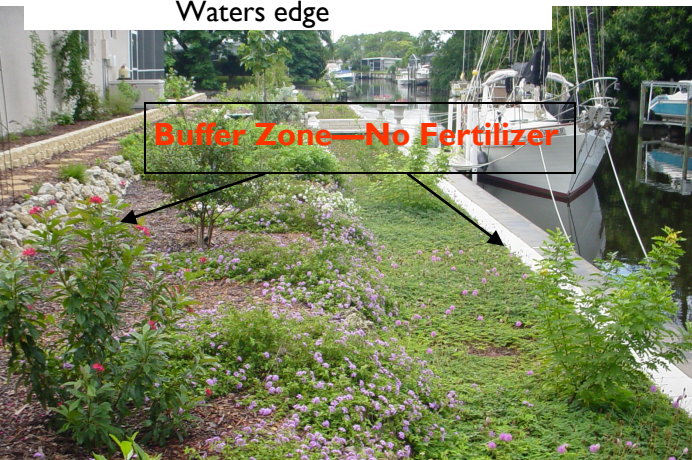
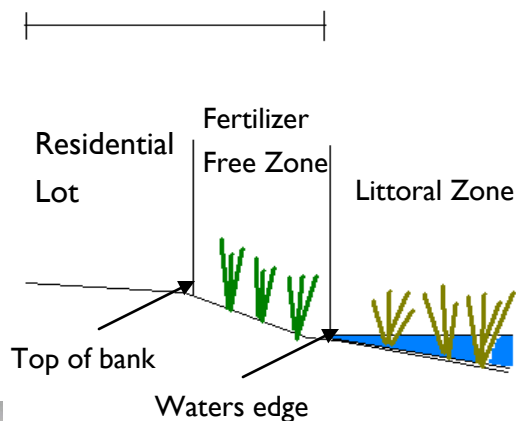
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
239-574-0785
CAPECORAL.NET



Do The Right Thing!

Here are some important features you should know about the new landscape ordinance to help protect and preserve Cape Coral's waterfront wonderland!

10 ft Buffer Zone



Landscape Example of Fertilizer-Free Zone For Residence on the Waterfront.

Fertilizer DOs & DON'Ts:

Fertilizer-free Zone:

No fertilizer containing nitrogen and/or phosphorus may be used within 10 feet of the top of a seawall or any water body (e.g., canals, lakes, wetlands, ponds, stream watercourses), except by hand dispersion.

The intent is to ensure that no material ends up in the water body and that only roots of palms or shrubs in this area are fertilized.

Restricted Season and Times:

No fertilizer containing nitrogen and/or phosphorus may be applied to turf or landscape plants:

Between June 1 and September 30.

Or if a Flood Watch or Warning, Tropical Storm Watch or Warning, or Hurricane Watch or Warning is in effect.

Nitrogen Applications:

At least 50% of the nitrogen in fertilizer must be a slow-release form.

No more than 4 lbs. of nitrogen per 1000 square feet may be applied to any area in a calendar year.

Fertilizer should be applied at the lowest rate necessary.

Application Practices:

Any fertilizer ending up on an impervious surface must be immediately contained and removed to be stored or applied appropriately.

Fertilizer may not be swept, washed, or blown off impervious surfaces into any water body.

Deflector shields must be used on spreaders and positioned so granules are deflected away from fertilizer free zones, impervious surfaces, and water bodies.

No grass clippings, vegetative material, or debris may be swept or blown into storm water drains, ditches, conveyances, water bodies, sidewalks, or roadways.

Commercial Fertilizer Applicators:

All commercial and institutional applicators must successfully complete the six hour training program in the "Florida Friendly Best Management Practices for Protection of Water Resources by the Green Industries" offered by the University of Florida Extension Service.

Enforcement:

Enforcement will occur through the City of Cape Coral's Code Compliance Division Officers.