

Watershed Friendly Fertilizers

While you're planning and working on your lawns or deciding on a lawn care service plan, we and the SE Michigan Partners for Clean Water **encourage you to take simple steps to protect water quality while improving and maintaining your lawn.** Please check out the tips and resources listed below on lawn care, fertilizers and other gardening practices, and challenge yourself to try a few of these tips this year.

1. Fertilize sparingly and carefully

Go slow. Select an organic or slow-release fertilizer.

Buy low. Select a fertilizer with low or no phosphorus

Mow high. Make your lawn cheaper and easier to maintain by mowing high – three inches is the rule!

Sweep it. Fertilizer left on sidewalks and driveways will easily wash into storm drains.

Don't guess . . . soil test. A soil test will tell you what, if any, fertilizer is needed in your yard. Contact your county Michigan State University Extension office for more information.