

Phosphorus Free Fertilizer

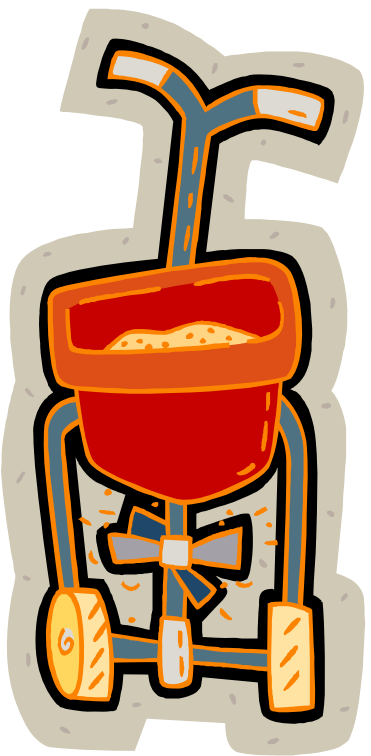
Why phosphorus free fertilizer?

While phosphorus is one of the nutrients essential for plant growth, studies have shown that most soils in the Red River Valley have an abundant natural supply of phosphorus, and the application of additional phosphorus to lawns is unnecessary. Phosphorus contained in fertilizers and other materials that wash into area storm sewers impacts water quality in the Red River.



Fertilizer use tips

- ◆ Look for the zero in the middle. Bags of blended fertilizer generally include a series of three numbers to indicate the percentage of nitrogen, phosphorus (or phosphates), and potash contained in the blend.



- ◆ Get your soil tested before you use a fertilizer.
- ◆ **Do not** wash off fertilizer spills into the street or other hard-surface areas.
- ◆ Wash off granular fertilizer spreaders over turf areas to prevent runoff of fertilizer.

Alternatives

- ◆ Use compost or mulch to fertilize soil.
- ◆ Use a mulching lawn mower.
- ◆ Mow lawn regularly and practice responsible watering.

Proper fertilizer use and appropriate landscape management will help reduce surface water pollution.