

# Phosphorus-Free Lawn Fertilizer Resources



## COLORADO – Knowledge is Power

The Colorado Phosphorus Free Lawn Fertilizer Initiative is a voluntary effort to help protect our lakes, reservoirs, and streams. This effort is to focus on outreach and public education around the topic of preventing unnecessary phosphorus that we use in our daily lives from getting to downstream waters. This effort is focused on inorganic, all-purpose lawn fertilizers sold by-the-bag in retail stores. Below is a list of helpful resources and more information on this topic.



### Green Lawns, Blue Waters - Protecting Colorado's Water One Yard at a Time.

#### What Other States are Doing?

There are 12 states that have great lawn fertilizer programs in place. Here are links to those states and their programs.

#### Florida

9 Principles of Florida-Friendly Landscaping (<https://ffl.ifas.ufl.edu/>)

Do-It-Yourself Guide ([https://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/sites/default/files/store\\_products/florida-friendly-fertilizing.pdf](https://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/sites/default/files/store_products/florida-friendly-fertilizing.pdf))

U. of Florida interactive map (<https://ffl.ifas.ufl.edu/fertilizer/>)

#### Illinois

State Statute (<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1597&ChapterID=36>)

U. of Illinois Extension Lawn Talk (<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/lawntalk/index.cfm>)

#### Maine

State website about fertilizers (<https://www.maine.gov/dep/land/watershed/fertilizer/index.html>)

Poster (<https://www.maine.gov/dep/land/watershed/fertilizer/images/P-free-poster2017.pdf>)

#### Maryland

Dept. of Ag. Training program (<https://mda.maryland.gov/Pages/fertilizer.aspx>)

Flyer ([https://mda.maryland.gov/resource\\_conservation/Documents/fertilizerwebpage.pdf](https://mda.maryland.gov/resource_conservation/Documents/fertilizerwebpage.pdf))

#### Michigan

Brochure ([https://www.michigan.gov/mdard/-/media/Project/Websites/mdard/documents/pesticide-plant-pest/feedsafetyandfertilizer/homeowner\\_brochure\\_use\\_phosphorus\\_free\\_fertilizer.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/mdard/-/media/Project/Websites/mdard/documents/pesticide-plant-pest/feedsafetyandfertilizer/homeowner_brochure_use_phosphorus_free_fertilizer.pdf))

#### Minnesota

Dept. of Ag. (<https://www.mda.state.mn.us/phosphorus-lawn-fertilizer-law>)

Study (<https://consensus.fsu.edu/Fertilizer-Task-Force/pdfs/07phoslawrptsumm1.pdf>)

Golf Course Program (<https://turf.umn.edu/golf-course-superintendent-phosphorus-certification>)

## **New Jersey**

Pro Fertilizer Applicator Certification and Training (<https://profact.rutgers.edu/>)  
Dept. of Environmental (<https://www.nj.gov/dep/healthylawnshealthywater/>)

## **New York**

Q&A (<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/74885.html>)

### **Nutrient Runoff Law**

(<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/67239.html#:~:text=Retailers%20who%20sell%20fertilizer%20must,a%20sign%20near%20the%20display.>)

## **Vermont**

Guidelines ([https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/Extension-Master-Gardener/UVMExt\\_Soil\\_Fertility\\_Recommendations\\_for\\_Vt\\_Lawns\\_7p.pdf](https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/Extension-Master-Gardener/UVMExt_Soil_Fertility_Recommendations_for_Vt_Lawns_7p.pdf))

Statute (<https://www.cga.ct.gov/2012/rpt/2012-r-0076.htm>)

## **Virginia**

Applicator License (<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/plant-industry-services-certified-fertilizer-applicator-training.shtml>)

Tonnage Reporting (<https://vdacsrpt.virginiainteractive.org/>)

## **Washington**

Statutes (<https://agr.wa.gov/departments/pesticides-and-fertilizers/fertilizers/fertilizers-containing-phosphorus>)

Lake Support ([https://www.walpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Pban\\_white\\_paper\\_final.pdf](https://www.walpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Pban_white_paper_final.pdf))

## **Wisconsin**

For Retailers ([https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Licenses\\_Permits/Fertilizer.aspx](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Licenses_Permits/Fertilizer.aspx))

Landscapers (<https://stevenspoint.com/DocumentCenter/View/948/Fertilizer-Regulations?bidId=>)

## **Colorado Resources**

Links specifically for Colorado

Colorado Waterwise (<https://coloradowaterwise.org/LLYLI>)

Love Colorado Water (<https://lovecoloradowater.org/care/>)

### **Water Study**

([https://mountainscholar.org/bitstream/handle/10217/3061/CR\\_189.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y](https://mountainscholar.org/bitstream/handle/10217/3061/CR_189.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y))

Landscaping Training in Colorado (<https://alcc.memberclicks.net/>)

Sustainable Landscaping Management (<https://alcc.memberclicks.net/slm-colorado>)

CSU Extension (<https://extension.colostate.edu/topic-areas/yard-garden/>)

Colorado Soils (<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/conservation-by-state/colorado/soil-and-soil-health-colorado>)

CDPHE Nutrients (<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/clean-water-nutrients>)

CO Water Quality Control Commission (<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/water-quality-control-commission-regulations>)



## Other Resources

Sunday Lawn Care Company (<https://www.getssunday.com/>)

Summary of State Laws (<https://www.cga.ct.gov/2012/rpt/2012-R-0076.htm>)

Phosphorus Article (<https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2021/02/phosphorus-pollution-fertilizer/617937/>)

North American Lake Management Society (<https://www.nalms.org/>)

EPA Clean Water Act (<https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/summary-clean-water-act>)

EPA Safe Drinking Water Act (<https://www.epa.gov/sdwa>)

EPA and Lawns (<https://www.epa.gov/nutrientpollution/what-you-can-do-your-yard>)

Water Cycle (<https://www.usgs.gov/special-topics/water-science-school/science/water-cycle>)

## Colorado Phosphorus-Free Lawn Fertilizer Coalition

### Phosphorus-Free Lawn Fertilizer Initiative Supported by:

