

Learn How to Apply Lawn Fertilizers

The 4 R's – Right rate, **RIGHT PRODUCT**, Right place, Right Time

There are many types of lawn fertilizers to choose from. It is important to get the right kind for your lawn's needs. The most important step is knowing what your lawn needs. Get your soils tested about every three years. This will help with saving money and avoiding the use of phosphorus that can harm downstream lakes and streams.

Definition of Slow-Release

N slowly becomes bio-available overtime. Better for lawn health.

All-Purpose

aka: *All-in-One, All-Season, or Lawn Food*. These products typically have more N and best to have no P. General use for normal conditions.

Soil Test

CSU extension will test your soil. Get a kit, collect a sample, and ship it off. Results will tell you what you need for your lawn.

Lawn Starter

aka: *Starter, Seeder, or New Lawn*. These are high in phosphorus to help get new lawns established.



Weed & Feed

Lawn fertilizers that have broadleaf herbicides. Extra care is needed to avoid harming your lawn & critters.

Phosphorus Free Fertilizer

Fertilizer with no phosphorus. The second number on the bag will be a "zero" (e.g., 15:0:4).

Compost

aka: *All-Natural, Organic, Manure, or Bio-solids*. These products are great and are naturally low in P. Great soil amendment to improve topsoil.



Green Lawns, Blue Waters – Protecting Colorado's Water One Yard at a Time

Green Lawns Blue Waters Be P-Free

- Don't apply fertilizer within 15 feet of water
- Watch the weather, avoid any storms
- Calculate the right amount to apply
- Use phosphorus free fertilizers
- Storm drains are not treated
- Sweep up all fertilizer spills
- Mulch your lawn clippings
- Compost your leaves
- Exposed soils erode
- Get a soil test

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Buy phosphorus-free fertilizer and keep our water clean.

Don't feed the algae: Too much nitrogen and phosphorus grow scummy algae in our lakes. Do your part and help keep Colorado's water clean by using phosphorus-free lawn fertilizers. [Learn more](#) 