

LIBERTY LAKE SEWER AND WATER DISTRICT

**PHOSPHORUS LAWN FERTILIZER
NO USE POLICY**

RESOLUTION # 46-05

The Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District has recognized the need to protect the lake, surface and groundwater and has adopted policies, guidelines and recommendations for that purpose.

In an effort to reduce pollutants that contribute to algae blooms and water quality deterioration, the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District is discouraging the use of lawn fertilizers that contain the element Phosphorus within the watershed of Liberty Lake.

Phosphorus is one of the key elements necessary for growth of plants and animals, however phosphorus can cause environmental impacts if an excess of phosphate enters the waterway. This condition is known as eutrophication or over-fertilization of receiving waters. The rapid growth of aquatic vegetation can cause the death and decay of vegetation and aquatic life because of the decrease in dissolved oxygen levels.

Section A: Recommendation for the use of Phosphorus free lawn fertilizer.

It is recommended that a person not apply fertilizer containing the plant nutrient phosphorus to turf within the watershed of Liberty Lake except for the following conditions:

- (a) The property owner or an agent of the property owner is first establishing turf via seed or sod procedures, and only during the first growing season;
- (b) The fertilizer containing the plant food phosphorus is used on a golf course under the direction of a person licensed, certified or approved by an organization recognized as authority in use of fertilizers;

Applications of phosphorus fertilizer authorized under the list of exemptions shall not exceed rates recommended by the label use restrictions of the product.

Section B: Fertilizer application to impervious surfaces.

For the purpose of this section, “impervious surface” means highway, street, sidewalk, parking lot, driveway, or other material that prevents infiltration of water into the soil.

A person should not apply a fertilizer to an impervious surface. Fertilizer release on an impervious surface must be immediately contained and either applied to turf or returned to the original or other proper container.

Spilling or spreading fertilizer on impervious surfaces shall not occur. If such a spill or spreading occurs it must be cleaned up immediately. This applies to all fertilizer, whether it contains phosphorus or not.

To promote understanding of and compliance with this policy the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District will develop educational posters and flyers to be distributed to watershed residents.

Approved this 16 day of November 2005.

SIGNED

Tom Agnew, President

SIGNED

Harley Halverson, Secretary

SEAL

SIGNED

Frank L. Boyle, Commissioner

SIGNED

Lee Mellish, Manager