

**L**iving on the water's edge is a beautiful and special place to reside. As stewards of our paradise community, the Town of Longboat Key Commission and Staff are very concerned with the quality of waters on which we live. In this regard, numerous stakeholder meetings were held to discuss and develop a fertilizer and landscape management code to reduce nutrient pollution in our waterways. Combined groups of citizens, environmentalists, state and local government staff and landscape maintenance professionals participated in the development of Ordinances 2008-04 and 2008-07 to assist our community in reaching its goals. This brochure is provided to help you to understand more about how **you can help**.

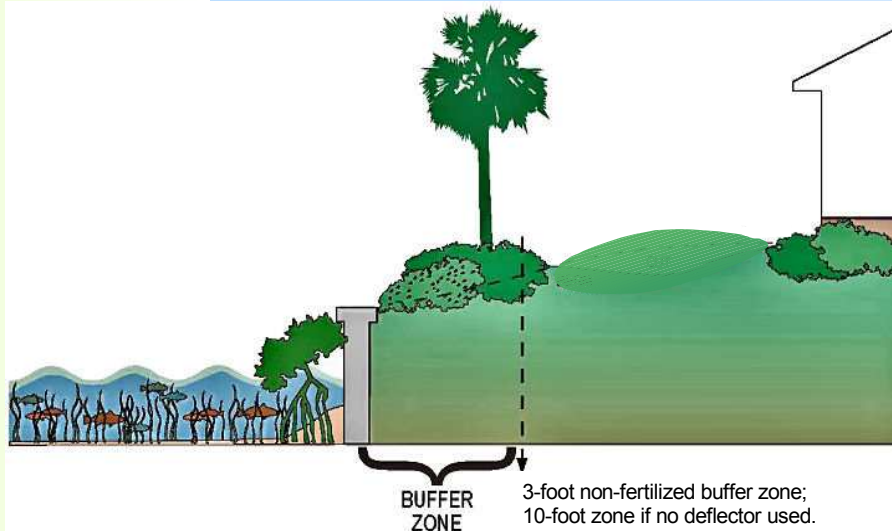
For additional information, please contact:  
**Sarasota Bay Estuary Program**,  
[www.sarasotabay.org](http://www.sarasotabay.org), 941.955.8085  
**Florida Native Plant Society**,  
[www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org), 321.271.6702  
**Florida Yards & Neighborhoods**,  
[www.FloridaYards.org](http://www.FloridaYards.org)  
**Association of Native Plant Nurseries**,  
[www.afnn.org](http://www.afnn.org), 877.352.2366  
**Town of Longboat Key**,  
[www.longboatkey.org](http://www.longboatkey.org), 941.316.1988  
**UF/IFAS Sarasota County Extension Service**,  
<http://sarasota.extension.ufl.edu>,  
 941.861.5000  
**UF/IFAS Manatee County Extension Service**,  
<http://manatee.ifas.ufl.edu>,  
 941.722.4524  
**Southwest Florida Water Management District**, [www.WaterMatters.org](http://www.WaterMatters.org), 352.796.7211

Our thanks to Sarasota County Government for contributing some elements of this brochure.

## THINGS TO LOOK FOR IN YOUR PROFESSIONAL LAWN MAINTENANCE COMPANY

### Do they

- ⇒ Require their applicators to be certified in Florida Green Industries Best Management Practices?
- ⇒ Use a minimum 50% slow-release nitrogen fertilizer product?
- ⇒ Apply no more than the maximum allowable amounts of nitrogen and phosphorus?
- ⇒ Use a deflector shield on all broadcast fertilizer spreaders?
- ⇒ Remove grass clippings from the roadway, storm drains and gutters?
- ⇒ Promote the benefits of a low maintenance zone around water bodies?
- ⇒ Maintain a 3-foot or if applied by a broadcast spreader without a deflector a 10-foot fertilizer-free zone around water bodies and wetlands?



## Ordinance Highlights:

### Restricted Season

**No fertilizer containing nitrogen or phosphorus shall be applied to turf or landscape plants between June 1-Sept. 30 of each year.**

### Phosphorus Applications

Shall not exceed 0.25 pounds per 1,000 square feet at each application, and shall not exceed a total of 0.5 pounds per 1,000 square feet per year.

### Nitrogen Applications

Nitrogen fertilizer must contain at least 50 percent slow-release nitrogen. No more than four pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet may be applied to turf or landscape plants each year.

*NOTE: State of Florida regulations allow a maximum of 0.7 pounds of readily available (soluble) or 1 pound of total nitrogen per 1,000 square feet may be applied at any one time to turf.*

### Deflector Shields

A deflector shield is required on all broadcast spreaders to prevent fertilizer from being applied within 3 feet of any water body or wetland.

### Grass Clippings Ord. 2008-07

No grass clippings, vegetative material or vegetative debris may be deposited in stormwater drains, conveyances, water bodies or roadways.

### Commercial and Institutional Fertilizer Applicators

**All applicators of fertilizer (except homeowners on their own property) must receive training and certification in a Sarasota County-approved Best Management Practices (BMP) training program.**

### Enforcement

Enforcement actions will take place through the use of Town Code Enforcement procedures or civil penalties.

**Questions? Contact the Public Works Department at 941-316-1988**

To download complete copies of these and other Ordinances go to [www.longboatkey.org](http://www.longboatkey.org)

**Conserve Water Every Drop Counts!**

# What To Look For On Your Fertilizer Label

% of Total N as **Slow-Release Nitrogen (SRN)** =  $\frac{7}{14} \times 100 = 50\%$   
(Meets 50% SRN Longboat Key Requirement)



**Nitrogen N**  
**Phosphate P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>**  
**Potash K<sub>2</sub>O**

## GUARANTEED ANALYSIS

TOTAL NITROGEN (N).	14.00 %
14.45% Urea Nitrogen (N)*	
SOLUBLE POTASH (K <sub>2</sub> O)..	26.00 %
SULFUR (S) Total.	19.70 %
10.50% Free sulfur (S)	
9.20% Combined sulfur (S)	
IRON (Fe) Total.	0.96 %
0.19% Water Soluble Iron (Fe)	
MANGANESE (Mn) Total.....	0.48 %
0.1% Water Soluble Manganese (Mn)	
DERIVED FROM: Polymer Coated Sulfur Coated Urea, Sulfate of Potash, Iron Oxide, Manganese Oxide.	
CHLORINE (Cl)	
Max.....	2.00%

\*7.00% Slowly Available Urea Nitrogen from  
Polymer Coated Sulfur Coated Urea.

**Dates to Remember:**  
**Fertilizer Ordinance (2008-04) will be effective as of October 1, 2008**  
**Grass Clippings Ordinance (2008-07) will be effective immediately!**

Town of Longboat Key  
Public Works Department  
600 General Harris Street  
Longboat Key, FL 34228



**Town of Longboat Key  
Ordinance 2008-04  
Ordinance 2008-07**

# A Citizen's Guide to the Town's Fertilizer & Landscape Ordinances



[www.longboatkey.org](http://www.longboatkey.org)