

Fox Cities Viewpoint- Lawn Fertilizers (September 2005)

As you watch your kids climb onto the school bus, you realize summer is over. Even though winter is not far behind, now is the time to plan for next spring's lawn.

If you need to use lawn fertilizers, keep these points in mind:

- Do a soil test and learn what your lawn really needs;
- Start fertilizing in early October when the average daily temperature drops to 50 degrees;
- Try using no- or low-phosphorus fertilizers;
- Leave grass clippings on the lawn and reduce the need for nitrogen by 30-40 percent;
- Sweep excess fertilizer back onto the lawn; never pour anything down the storm drain.

A healthy lawn reduces the need for fertilizing, leaving you with more time for the kids when they get home from school.

The Northeast Wisconsin Stormwater Consortium is a partnership of area communities working together to educate you on how we can make great strides in protecting and enjoying our environment.