

Fall Fertilizing

A lawn care option you may not have considered this fall is fertilizing. Fall is the best time to fertilize your lawn for quickly improving vigor and growing a healthier, greener lawn next spring.

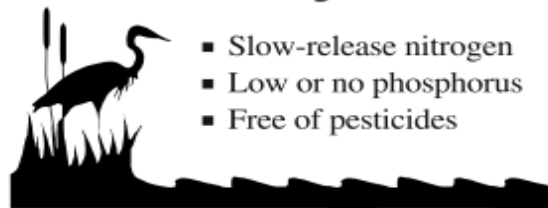
When applying fertilizer this fall, consider:

- **Earth-friendly fertilizers.** The over-application of lawn fertilizers has been linked to water quality problems in the Rouge River watershed and local lakes. Earth-friendly fertilizers can reduce the problem by building turf density and health while minimizing the risk of excess nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen. Try fertilizers that have 50% or more slow-release nitrogen and do not contain herbicides or weed-control.
- **The bright green sticker.** Local hardware stores and garden centers are helping the program by placing a bright green “Earth-Friendly Fertilizer” sticker on the designated bags. For a complete area listing, visit www.healthylandscapes.com or contact the Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority (SOCWA) at 248-288-5150.

If you use a lawn care service, ask the company if they have earth-friendly fertilizing options. Below is a partial list of fertilizers to consider. The N-P-K values refer to ratio of concentrated Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), and Potassium (K). For more information on healthy lawn care providers, contact Michigan Green Industry Association at 248-646-4992.

PRODUCT NAME (partial list)	N-P-K
Fertrell Lawn Fertilizer	5-0-5
Grass Magic	15-0-7
Safer Lawn Restore	10-0-6
Soil Science	5-0-7
Turf Nurture	15-0-7

Earth-Friendly Fertilizer



- Slow-release nitrogen
- Low or no phosphorus
- Free of pesticides

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