

FALMOUTH FRIENDLY LAWN CARE ESSENTIALS

- 1. Test Your Soil: when pH is below 6.5, add lime so grass can effectively use nutrients
- 2. Enrich Your Soil: when topsoil is below 6", add a thin layer of sand and compost mix each year
- 3. Minimize Any Fertilizer: Traditional Cape lawns don't need any fertilizer. Established fescue grasses could use 1 lb of Nitrogen/1000 sq ft of grass per year
- 4. The Right Fertilizer: only use granular or organic slow-release nitrogen [WIN of 30%+]
- 5. Mow High, Recycle Clippings: mow to grass height of about 3"; clippings stay on lawn
- 6. Use Cape-Type Grasses: fine/tall fescues
- 7. Pull Weeds: by hand or spot treat them
- 8. Water Deeply: 1" once a week including rain; obey restrictions
- 9. Grow Native Shrubs: substitute for lawn areas; save on lawn care, water and nitrogen

If you hire a lawn service provider, tell them to follow FFL guidelines. Check our web-site for the names of FFL-Certified LSPs who will match your N-rate to FFL standards for your type of grass and traffic load.



Committee volunteers will respond to questions if you contact us at: fflawn@cape.com.



Town of Falmouth
Office of Selectmen and
Town Administrator
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Falmouth
Friendly Lawn



BAYS AND

Preserve Falmouth Bays and Ponds is a community outreach campaign founded in 2002 and dedicated to saving Falmouth's coastal waters and ponds. Falmouth faces a serious problem with nitrogen pollution in its bays and ponds. Too much nitrogen causes algae to grow rapidly, using up oxygen and destroying plant and shellfish life. If not addressed soon, nitrogen pollution may undermine property values near the water and trigger higher tax rates for everyone in town

THE CULPRIT



Studies have shown that nitrogen pollution in coastal waters like Bournes, Green, and Great Ponds comes from 3 major sources. Nitrogen leaching from septic systems is the main source; curbing that will take much time and many \$\$\$\$. The other sources are applied fertilizers and atmospheric deposition. As much as 20% of the nitrogen pollution, which causes rapid algae growth, comes from the fertilizers we use on grass and other plants. So lawn owners can start reducing nitrogen pollution RIGHT NOW by adopting ecologically-responsible lawn care practices.