

Help Us Protect Water Quality in City of Monroe Lakes and Streams



City of Monroe Lakes (Twitty, Lee, and Monroe) are now listed on the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources Impaired Water 303(d) List. Please help us be good stewards of our water resources!

- Use fertilizer sparingly. Many plants don't need much fertilizer or as often as you think.
- Don't fertilize before a rain storm and clean up any spilled fertilizer promptly.
- Have your soil tested and follow soil test recommendations.
- Choose a no phosphorus and slow-release nitrogen fertilizer. Check the second number on the package for phosphate content. Formula 26-0-3, for example, means no phosphate. Slow release fertilizers release their nutrients over a longer period and are less likely to create a flush of nutrient-laden runoff pollution.
- Apply fertilizer at the spreader setting shown on the bag to avoid overuse of product.
- Use a drop spreader or a rotary spreader with a side guard to keep fertilizer on the lawn and off driveways, roadways and walkways. Sweep up excess fertilizer from paved surfaces.



- Keep soil, leaves, and lawn clippings out of the street.
- Pick up pet waste promptly. Pet waste can contain harmful bacteria as well as nutrients that cause excess algae and weed growth in lakes and rivers.
- More fertilizer is NOT better! Whatever is not taken up by the plant runs off in the next rain event

What do I look for?

- On any bag or box of fertilizer, there is a string of three numbers. The middle number indicates the phosphorus content and should read "0".



- Don't Fertilize our Lakes and Streams, Be a Good Steward of Water Quality!
- For more information visit www.monroenc.org
- Information on Impaired Water 303(d) List <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/ps/mtu/assessment>