

POA LAKES & WATER BODIES

BACKGROUND:

The PGA POA recently established a Lakes Committee to improve the condition of the water bodies within PGA National, which include our lakes, canals, marshes, and water retention ponds.

The committee has learned there is a large accumulation of “muck” in our water bodies due to algae and other organic material that has settled to the bottom. This has led to a significant reduction in their depth.

Water bodies are adversely impacted by a number of substances including pet waste, cooking waste, food, fertilizer, litter, grass clippings and other landscape debris, construction debris, pool water, paints and solvents, medical supplies, and other foreign substances and objects (collectively “**foreign materials**”).

ACTION:

As such, we are asking everyone (owners, associations, managers, landscapers, and contractors) to comply with the Palm Beach Gardens Pollution Ordinance and to please follow the below requirements:

1. Landscapers must be properly licensed for fertilizer application and complete the “Florida-Friendly Best Management Practices for Protection of Water Resources by the Green Industries” course;
2. Nitrogen and phosphorous fertilizer may only be applied in accordance with the guidelines of the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agriculture. See edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/LH014;
3. Fertilizer shall not be applied when the soil is saturated or when stormy weather is occurring or predicted;
4. Spreader deflector shields must be used when fertilizing and positioned to deflect fertilizer granules away from all water bodies;
5. Fertilizer shall not be applied within ten (10) feet, or three (3) feet, if a deflector shield or drop spread is used, of any water body;
6. **Foreign materials** shall not be placed or allowed to enter into storm drains, catch basins or water bodies, and, if improperly deposited, must be immediately removed, to the fullest extent possible;
7. Pet waste must be immediately cleaned up and properly disposed of;
8. All **foreign materials** created or deposited in the course of any work shall be promptly cleaned up and removed. **Foreign materials** shall not be left on any property or **impervious surface** for removal by a recycler or disposal operator unless such material is in a container; and
9. Owners shall not allow their drainage system (including drains and any extensions from roof gutters) to drain, directly or indirectly, into any water body.