



February 16, 2009

Dear Landscape Services Provider:

Attached please find the City of Tallahassee's new fertilizer ordinance, adopted on January 28, 2009. The ordinance regulates the proper use of fertilizers, requires training of commercial and institutional fertilizer applicators, and establishes training and certification requirements. This ordinance has been adopted as a measure to reduce the amount of nutrient-laden fertilizer that enters our area's lakes and watercourses.

This Ordinance requires training and certification for all commercial fertilizer applicators within the City. Training sessions will consist of one session, and certification will be valid for 3 years. To avoid redundant certification the City will recognize other State-approved Best Management Practices (BMP) training certificates on proper fertilizer application in lieu of attending local training as described in section 9-130 of the ordinance. Additionally, please note that anyone working under direct and physical supervision of an applicator that holds a current training certificate is exempt from taking this training. Please contact me or Sarah Keith Valentine at (850) 891-6860 with any questions.

Training sessions will take place at the IFAS Extension office, located at 615 Paul Russell Rd, just east of the Fair Grounds, and across the street from Jack McLean Park. For more information regarding the training sessions, please visit the IFAS website at <http://leon.ifas.ufl.edu>, or call David Marshall at (850) 606-5202. The ordinance includes a grace period of 180 days for training and certification.

The City values and appreciates your compliance with this important initiative to protect area waters. The landscape and garden industry, businesses and organizations are important to this community, and the City appreciates your continued support.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "John Cox".

John Cox

Planning Chief, Stormwater Quality