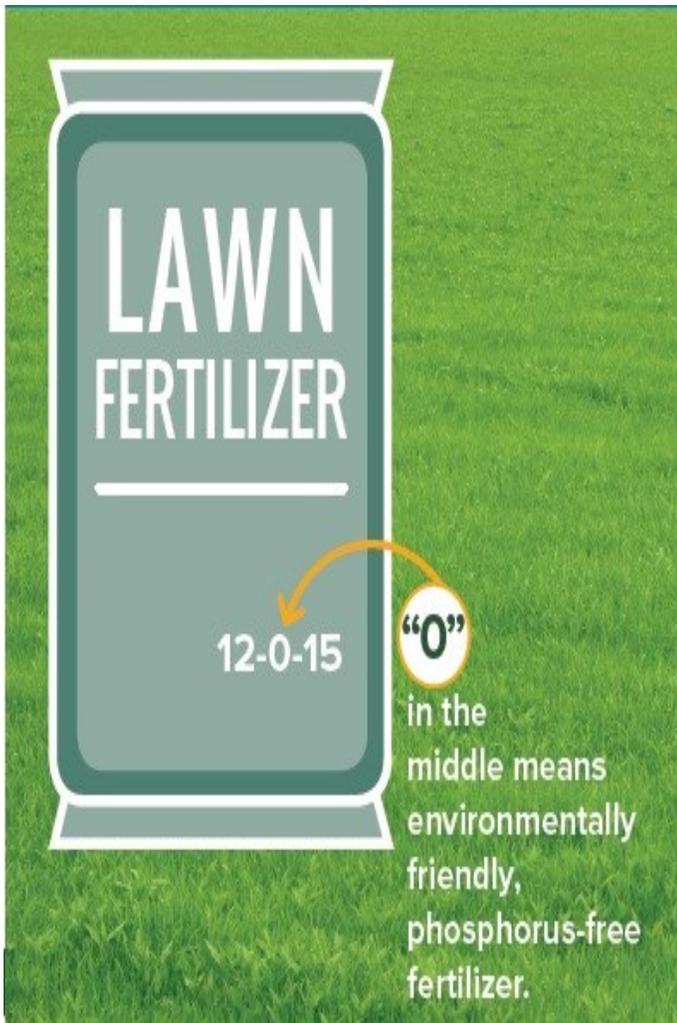


What feeds the algae in our Resaca and Ponds?



An algal bloom is a rapid increase in the density of algae in an aquatic system. Algal blooms sometimes are natural phenomena, but their frequency, duration and intensity are increased by nutrient pollution. Algae can multiply quickly in waterways with an overabundance of nitrogen and phosphorus, particularly when the water is warm and the weather is calm. This proliferation causes blooms of algae that turn the water noticeably green, although other colors can occur. Some species of algae grow in clumps covered in a gelatinous coating and have the capability to float, allowing cells to stick together into large surface scums in calm weather.



The public plays an important role in reducing nutrient pollution. Each of us can use fertilizers wisely, such as only when lawns show nutrient deficiencies, according to manufacturer directions and avoid using fertilizers just prior to a rain. In addition, we can each use chemicals responsibly and properly maintain our stormwater systems.

Top 5 Things You Can Do to Protect Ponds

1



Adopt a Storm Drain

Keep leaves, grass clippings and other debris off the street and storm drain in front of your house. Debris can clog storm drains or end up as pollution in your neighborhood pond.

2



Stop the Drops

Increase the number of raindrops that soak into the ground by installing a rain barrel (and using the water for your garden) or by directing downspouts onto your lawn or into a rain garden.

3



Walk Your Dog, Bring a Bag

Clean up your dog's droppings so they don't wash down a storm drain. Not only is it gross to step in, but your dog's waste harbors harmful bacteria and boosts algae growth in ponds.

4



Don't Feed the Storm Drain

Only rain down the storm drain! Don't dump yard waste, motor oil, or paint down the storm drain. Also, wash your car on the lawn, so soapy water doesn't run into the street.

5



Fertilize Your Lawn... Not the Street

Fertilizer that ends up on hard surfaces will likely be washed into a storm drain & sent to your neighborhood pond. In a pond, fertilizer causes an explosion of algae growth.