

Environmental Protection Division

**Proposed Amendments to
Chapter 15, Article XVII
Fertilizer Management Ordinance
Work Session**

June 6, 2017



Presentation Outline

- Background
- Ordinance Review
- Summary
- Next Steps





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Background

- 2009 – Orange County adopted Chapter 15, Article XVII, Fertilizer Management Ordinance
- 2015 – Urban Turf Rule 5E-1.003, Florida Administrative Code updated
- 2016 – Florida Springs and Aquifer Protection Act
 - Requires adoption of Model Ordinance language by July 1, 2017





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Ordinance Review

■ Revisions Required by State

- Add Purpose statement
- Add landscape plants to application criteria
- Update Phosphorus deficiency testing
- Add spill cleanup language
- Increase low maintenance zone from 6 to 10 feet

■ Changes requested by staff

- Increased application set back from waterways from 10 to 15 feet
- Annual training required for non-commercial restricted period applications

■ IFAS Recommendations

- Remove exemptions for new installations
- Update certified Applicator requirements





Ordinance Review

Stakeholder Input (March 29, April 12, April 26):

- **Environmental - Adopt Seminole County's Ordinance**
 - Summer restriction; no exemption for commercial/non-commercial applicators of nitrogen or phosphorus containing fertilizers
 - 65% slow release Nitrogen by 2020 if available
- **Agricultural - Non bona fide grazing pastures be exempt from ordinance**
- **Industry - Supports draft changes including existing exemptions**
- **EPC - Supports draft changes including existing exemptions**



Ordinance Review

Issue	Orange County	Seminole County
Exemptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bona fide ag operations• Golf courses, athletic fields• Vegetable gardens• Trained commercial applicators (GIBMP or FDACS)• Trained non-commercial - annual online test	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bona fide ag operations• Golf courses, athletic fields• Fruit & vegetable gardens if 15 feet from waterbody• Other non-bona fide grazing pasture• Land used for bona fide scientific research• None for commercial/non-commercial applications



Ordinance Review

Issue	Orange County	Seminole County
Slow Release Nitrogen	50%	50% now, 65% in 2020 if available
Set back from Surface Water	15ft	15ft
Low Maintenance Zone	10ft	10ft
Phosphorus	Prohibited unless soil test shows deficiency	Prohibited unless soil test shows deficiency
Non-commercial applicator training	Required to take annual test to apply during summer	Encouraged to follow IFAS guidelines
Reclaimed Water	----	Must reduce rates proportional to amount of nutrients in water



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Summary

- **Proposed changes to Fertilizer Management Ordinance reflect updating sections in order to meet FDEP timeframes and content for Priority Springs Stakeholders**
- **Ordinance needs to be updated by July 1, 2017 per the 2016 Springs and Aquifer Protection Act**
- **Not expected to have substantial impact on development of real property within the County**



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Next Steps

- BCC direction on proposed language
- June 20, 2017 - Public Hearing for adoption



Section 15-804 Fertilizer content; Application rate

(c) No fertilizer containing nitrogen shall be applied to turf unless at least fifty (50) percent of its nitrogen content is slow release as indicated on the Guaranteed Analysis label, with no more than one (1) pound total nitrogen per one thousand (1,000) square feet of area per application.

This requirement shall change to 65% slow release nitrogen if the product is readily available on the local commercial market by July 1, 2020.