

Protect Our Waters: Rainy Season is here and Fertilizer Rules Are Back!

Keeping our waterways clean is a top priority. To help with this, important regulations are now in effect regarding fertilizer application for lawns and landscape plants. These rules are designed to prevent nutrient pollution from reaching our canals, rivers and the ocean, protecting local wildlife and water quality.

What You Need to Know:

From **June 1 through Sept. 30**, fertilizers containing nitrogen and/or phosphorus cannot be applied to turf or landscape plants during these specific times:

- When a weather alert is active: This includes any flood watch or warning, tropical storm watch or warning or hurricane watch or warning issued by the National Weather Service for any part of Volusia County.
- During or after heavy rain: If heavy rain is likely (meaning two inches or more within a 24-hour period), hold off on fertilizing.
- On saturated soil: This means if there's standing water on your lawn, or if pressing on the soil releases water, your soil is too wet for fertilizer.

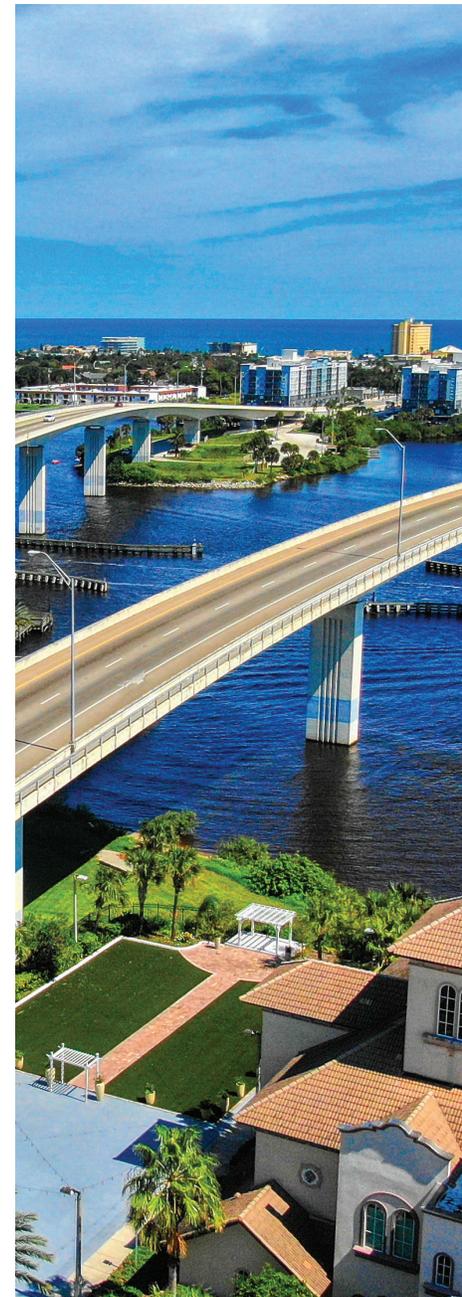
*You may use nitrogen outside of the blackout period only if 50% of the total nitrogen is slow-release nitrogen.

ALSO, DO NOT APPLY WITHIN 15 FEET OF ANY WATER BODY!

Why These Rules Matter:

When fertilizers are applied during these prohibited periods, especially to wet or saturated soils, the nutrients are easily washed away by rain into our stormwater drains and ultimately into our precious waterways. Excess nitrogen and phosphorus can fuel harmful algal blooms, reduce oxygen levels and harm aquatic life. By following these guidelines, you're directly contributing to a healthier environment for everyone in Daytona Beach and helping to protect our unique coastal ecosystems.

Thank you for doing your part to keep our waters clean and vibrant!



WATER QUALITY REPORT AVAILABLE

Daytona Beach's Utilities Department recently released its Water Quality Report, which analyzes drinking water collected during 2024. The report is designed to inform the community about the quality of water the city delivers. It includes details on where water comes from, how it's treated, tips on water conservation and information about the city's Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) program. Water Quality Report: www.DaytonaBeach.gov/WaterQualityReport.

FLUORIDE TO BE REMOVED FROM DRINKING WATER BEGINNING JULY 1

Governor Ron DeSantis signed a sweeping piece of legislation that includes a new statewide policy prohibiting the addition of fluoride to municipal public drinking water systems, effective July 1, 2025. As a result, the City of Daytona Beach will cease fluoridation of its drinking water on that date. While city ordinance No. 65-05, adopted by voter referendum in 1965 and reaffirmed by resolution No. 65-252, requires fluoridation, the new state law preempts and overrides this local mandate.

What this means for residents: Fluoride will no longer be added to city water beginning July 1, 2025. This change is mandated by state law, not a decision by the City Commission. The city remains committed to producing high-quality, safe drinking water and will comply fully with all applicable state and federal regulations.



July 4th Veterans Parade on Main Street

Join us for a Fourth of July Veterans Parade that will begin at 10 a.m. Friday, July 4. The parade starts on Main Street at Atlantic Avenue and travels west to the base of the bridge. In addition to the parade, there will be a special July 4th Veterans Ceremony beginning at 9 a.m. by the Clock Tower between the Boardwalk and the Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort at 100 N. Atlantic Ave., which will be presented by Volusia Veterans and is sponsored by the city. The city's traditional fireworks spectacular will be Friday night, beginning at 9:45 p.m. over the Atlantic Ocean, near the Boardwalk and Daytona Beach Pier.

Summer concerts at Daytona Beach Bandshell

Free concerts at the Daytona Beach Oceanfront Bandshell Friday and Saturday nights are returning for the summer. Tribute bands perform at 7:15 p.m. each night, and fireworks over the ocean follow the Saturday night concerts at 9:45 p.m. Guests can bring chairs. VIP tickets are available for \$15 plus applicable surcharges. View the summer schedule of concerts at www.DaytonaBandshell.com.



Stay cool at a city pool

With temps rising, it's the perfect time to enjoy a cool, refreshing pool!

Cypress Aquatic Center

981 George W. Engram Blvd.

Hours: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday

Admission: \$3 for adults and

\$2 for youth up to age 17

Campbell Aquatic Center

400 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Hours: noon to 6 p.m.

Tuesday through Saturday

Admission: \$1 for all ages



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