



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 13, 2010

Green Lawns, Clear Waters –Healthy Lawn Care Workshop

Where: Griffin Room, Harwich Town Hall

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GREEN LAWNs, CLEAR WATERS

How to maintain healthy lawns and gardens while protecting
Pleasant Bay and other coastal estuaries

Harwich, MA - The Pleasant Bay Alliance will host a community workshop on “green” lawn care practices on Thursday, May 20th, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM in the Griffin Room at Harwich Town Hall. Local environmental firms, *Effective Organics* and the [Horsley Witten Group, Inc.](#), will present homeowners with different techniques for responsibly managing lawns and gardens while protecting sensitive coastal resources.

Sprouting green lawns from sandy soils often calls for the application of fertilizers and pesticides. Nitrogen and phosphorus contained in the fertilizers can harm nearby ponds and coastal estuaries, feeding the algae that grow within them to the point where they choke off fish and shellfish that live and breed in these waters.

Carol Ridley, Coordinator of the Pleasant Bay Alliance, explains, “We’d like to encourage responsible lawn care as a component of our efforts to protect Pleasant Bay and surrounding coastal water bodies. The goal of this workshop is to demonstrate how each of us can achieve beautiful lawns, gardens, shrubs and trees through the application of “green” practices that eliminate or significantly reduce reliance on fertilizers and other products that can harm water quality.”

This workshop is part of the Pleasant Bay Alliance’s broader investigation of opportunities to reduce the nitrogen loading impacts of fertilizer use within the Pleasant Bay Watershed, funded through a grant from the Cape Cod Water Protection Collaborative. The Pleasant Bay Alliance is a cooperative effort among the Towns of Orleans, Chatham and Harwich to preserve the natural resources and public enjoyment of Pleasant Bay. For more information about this organization, visit their website:

<http://www.pleasantbay.org/>. ###