

Green Lawns, Clear Waters

How to Maintain Healthy Lawns and Gardens While Protecting Pleasant Bay and Other Coastal Estuaries

Griffin Room Harwich Town Hall May 20, 2010 6:30-8:30 PM

Sponsored by: The Pleasant Bay Alliance

Spring is the season when we work to bring our lawn and gardens back to life. This often includes the application of fertilizers and pesticides to stimulate plant growth. 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.

Minimizing fertilizer use can help protect and restore the quality of our estuaries, supporting and potentially reducing the scale of wastewater management needed to reach nitrogen loading targets for our coastal embayments.

The goal of the workshop is to demonstrate how to maintain healthy, beautiful lawns gardens, shrubs and trees while significantly reducing the use of lawn fertilizers and pesticides. Strategies discussed would benefit any coastal watershed.

This workshop is part of the Pleasant Bay Alliance's broader investigation of opportunities to reduce the nitrogen loading impacts associated with fertilizer use within the Pleasant Bay Watershed, funded through a grant from the Cape Cod Water Protection Collaborative.





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Workshop Agenda

6:30-6:45 Welcome and Introductions

6:45-8:00 Intelligent Lawn Care - Keeping Your Lawn Green and Your Waters Clean

- Alternatives to Traditional Fertilizers
- Controlling Weeds, Bugs and Disease
- Rethinking your Landscape Alternatives to Conventional Landscapes that Can Reduce Fertilizer Use

8:00-8:20 Discussion – Questions and Answers

8:20-8:30 Wrap-up - Summary of Next Project Steps

