Ottawa County Phosphorus Fertilizer Ordinance

Effective January 1, 2008: All areas in Ottawa County are prohibited the use of any lawn fertilizer containing more than 0% phosphorus; prohibited the use of any fertilizer on frozen ground; prohibited the use of any fertilizer on impervious surfaces including parking lots, roadways, and sidewalks.

Exemptions include:
- Newly established turf or lawn areas during their first growing season.
- Turf or lawn areas that have been shown within the last 3 years to be Phosphorus deficient through laboratory analysis (soil test).
- Agricultural areas, gardens, or applications to trees and/or shrubs.
- Compost or similar natural organic materials.

Contact the Ottawa County Health Department at 616-393-5645 for more information. Check out our “Blue Thumb Partners” on the web at: www.miottawa.org.