

## Lawncare's Winter Break



As the lawn maintenance season nears its end and the last of the leaves are being mulched, it seems an appropriate time to review the winter nutrient management rules.

Remember, nutrients should only be applied when the turf is actively growing. So as winter approaches and temperatures cool, our lawns go dormant. At this point, nutrients are generally no longer needed until the spring growing season resumes.

However, should a nutrient need arise, remember to follow these additional winter fertilizer use restrictions.

- Nitrogen is restricted to 0.50 lbs/1000 ft<sup>2</sup> from December 15 through March 1.
- Phosphate is always prohibited unless the turf is being repaired or established or a soil test indicates a phosphorus need.
- Do not apply fertilizer to frozen or snow-covered ground.
- Do not use fertilizer as a snow or ice melt.

Enjoy the winter lawncare break - winterize the mower, properly store any remaining product, and always be wise when you fertilize!