



Watershed Management Plan

Fertilizer Ordinance

March 28, 2011





Agenda

- Agency Response to more stringent Ordinance
- Model Ordinance
- Public Education
- Public Comments



Requirements for Stricter Provisions

- Has nonpoint program to address nutrients, and
- More stringent Provisions are Required, and
- Considers Input from FDEP, IFAS, and DACS
- Existing Collier Non-Point Nutrient Controls

150 % State WQ treatment standard

Buffers to wetlands and water bodies

Native Habitat preservation standards

Gordon River water Quality Park

Provisions Considered

- Black Out Period – June 1 – Sept 30
- Reduction in N load to 4 lbs/1000 ft/yr
- 50 % Slow Release Nitrogen
- Mandatory 10 ft Buffer for Water Bodies

FDEP Comments and Recommendations

- Rainy Season Ban – Science incomplete
- Irrigation program to maintain slight Irrigation deficit
- Decompaction of urban landscape soils to decrease runoff
- Ensure citizens aware of saturated soil conditions
- 4 lb N per year – Less than minimum for Bermuda grass in S Fla

Dept. Agriculture & Consumer Servc.

- Absent of scientific confirmation of need for more stringent standards recommend Model Ordinance
- Proposed restrictions jeopardize turf health and filtration capabilities

U of F1 IFAS

- Science supports fertilization during growth period (June – Sept) – minimal N loss
- UF-IFAS recommends 30% SRN at 1 lb per application until documentation supports higher
- Soluble N at proper rates have low leaching rates
- Proper irrigation important
- Keep plant debris off impervious

Nutrient issues within Collier County

- Lake Trafford obviously impaired
 - But also improving water quality with dredging project
- For most of Collier County “impairment” for DO is assumed to be nutrients by FDEP
 - Rookery Bay “Chl a impairment” likely due to 2006 sample sites
- Based on TN and TP screening using 70th percentile values statewide, nutrients not much of a concern in Collier County
- Based on TN and TP screening using 75th percentile values from Gordon River TMDL reference sites, nutrients elevated throughout much of County

Water Quality

General Conclusions

- Nutrients (impact on chlorophyll-a)
 - Level of concern over nutrients depends on screening criteria used
 - State-wide approach – not much of a problem
 - Reference approach – 0.74mgN/l (Based on DO)
 - Runoff from undeveloped uplands exceed 0.74 mgN/l
 - Any addition of N is problematic
 - Only increasing N trend is in eastern basins: OK, Fak, CK,
 - Organic N down in : Rookery B Inland W, Coc Inland, Coc Riv,
 - TP increasing in Rookery B Inland E, and Naples Bay

Staff Recommendation

- Lack of clear scientific support for more stringent fertilizer ordinance
- Model Ordinance and Public Education
- Include Collier buffer requirements
- Evaluation of local conditions

Model Ordinance Requirements

- Training and Licensing for Commercial
- Prohibited Period – Watches
- Application Rate – Label requirement
- Fertilizer Free Zone – Voluntary 10 feet
Required native buffers mandatory
- Low Maintenance Area (buffers)
- Exemptions – Agriculture
- Application Practices – No fertilizer on
impervious

Education Program

- Education for residents – web and TV
- Application recommendations at retail
- Irrigation awareness
- Precipitation awareness
- Re-Use Nutrient awareness

What's Next

- Recommendations from Advisory Committees
EAC April 13
CCPC April 21
- BCC Consideration

