



Application

Business Name: _____

Certified Commercial Nutrient Handler Name: _____

Nutrient Management Certification #: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail _____

We, _____, agree to abide by the requirements of the Delaware Livable Lawns Program as set forth in pages 2 and 3 of this Application (Requirements for Certification). We agree to maintain any marketing materials provided to us by the Delaware Livable Lawns Program for our use.

By my signature below, I understand my business's responsibilities as stewards of the Delaware Livable Lawns Program.

Signature of Certified Commercial Nutrient Handler

Date

Signature of Business Owner/Manager

Date

**Mail completed application form to DNLA at PO Box 897, Hockessin DE 19707.
Contact DNLA at 888-448-1203 or at info@dnlaonline.org.**

Requirements for Certification:

1. Keep fertilizer and grass clippings off any impervious surfaces (ex. sidewalks, driveways)
2. Leave behind educational lawn care materials provided by the Delaware Livable Lawns Program and explain to the homeowner that he/she needs to follow the same guidelines when performing any lawn care on their own, in order to maintain the integrity of the program.
3. For all new accounts (individual lawns that you previously had not treated), you must test the soil for phosphorus, potassium, and pH prior to application.
4. For established accounts (individual lawns that you have treated within a year or are currently treating), test the soil once every three years to determine the specific needs of the lawn.
5. Apply nutrients based on the requirements given in the table on the next page titled "Requirements for Fertilizer Application".
6. Calibrate spreaders for correct application rates and record the pounds of nutrients applied to each lawn.
7. Have a certified Commercial Nutrient Handler employed within the company.
8. Submit the "Reporting and Tracking" form once per year to the Delaware Nursery and Landscape Association by December 31.
9. All certified companies will be required to keep all soil test results and application information for 3 years to be randomly audited by the Delaware Nursery and Landscape Association.

10. Contact the Delaware Nursery and Landscape Association in the event of any loss or damage of marketing materials. Movement, change or destruction of marketing materials is prohibited without authorization from the Delaware Nursery and Landscape Association.

Additional Program Recommendations:

In addition to the Requirements for Certification, companies certified under the Delaware Livable Lawns Program should adhere to the following recommendations, whenever possible:

1. Provide residents with copies of their soil tests and information to help them understand their results.
2. Seed with turf-type tall fescue or other low nutrient requiring grass species.
3. Use slow release fertilizers.

2024 Timeline

April 30, 2024 – Application Form Deadline for 2024 Delaware Livable Lawns Program

March 2024 – December 2024 – Maintain records of soil test results and reporting and tracking data

December 31, 2024– Reporting and Tracking Form Deadline for 2024 Delaware Livable Lawns Program

January 31, 2025 – Certified Delaware Livable Lawns Companies Notified for 2025 Program

January 31, 2025 -- Marketing Materials available for Certified Companies

Livable Lawn Fertilizer Guidelines						DE Nutrient Management Laws <i>(See footnote 6)</i>
Turfgrass Species	Maximum Total N Allowed/Year <i>(See footnote 5)</i>	Application Blackout Dates for N and P <i>(See footnotes 1, 2, & 5)</i>	Nitrogen Rates Using SRN of 35% or Less	Nitrogen Rates Using SRN of 35% or Greater	P <i>(See footnotes 3 & 4)</i>	
Cool-Season Grasses (e.g. Tall Fescue, Perennial Ryegrass, Fine Fescue, Ky Bluegrass)	3 lbs N/1000/year	November 15th to March 1st unless the turf is in the establishment period (seeding or sodding).	N rates shall not exceed 0.5 lbs N/1000 from March 1st to August 31st. Rates may be increased up to 1.0 lbs N/1000 from September 1st to November 15th	N rates shall not exceed 0.75 lbs N/1000 from March 1st to August 31st. Rates may be increased up to 1.5 lbs N/1000 from September 1st to November 15th	No P under any circumstance unless designated by a soil test from a nationally accredited lab.	No fertilizer materials are to be applied from December 7th to February 15th
Warm-Season Grasses (e.g. Zoysiagrass, Bermudagrass)	3 lbs N/1000/year	September 1st to May 1st unless the turf is in the establishment period (seeding or sodding)	N rates shall not exceed 0.5 lbs N/1000 from May 1st to June 1st. Rates may be increased up to 1.0 lbs N/1000 from June 1st to August 31st	N rates shall not exceed 0.75 lbs N/1000 from May 1st to June 1st. Rates may be increased up to 1.5 lbs N/1000 from June 1st to August 31st	No P under any circumstance unless designated by a soil test from a nationally accredited lab.	No fertilizer materials are to be applied on snow covered or frozen ground

Footnotes

1. If establishing turf outside of the DE Livable Lawns blackout dates - 1 application of no more than 0.5 lbs N/1000 can be applied
2. Potassium (K) can be applied at any time from February 15th to December 7th as long as the ground is not snow covered or frozen
3. "At Home" or box store soil test are not acceptable for use
4. The Mehlich 3 extraction method is best for the soils of Delaware
5. DLL participants who manage athletic fields are exempt from the guidelines, but the yearly totals of N and P applied to any athletic fields should be reported separately in the column labeled "Athletic Field Applications"
6. Liming materials can be applied any time of the year when the ground is not snow covered or frozen

Best Management Practices

1. Consider watering-in any applied fertilizer materials after application when possible
2. Fast release nitrogen sources, such as urea or ammonium sulfate, should be watered-in as soon as possible after application
3. Clippings should be mulched and returned to the lawn
4. Clippings should always be removed from impervious surfaces
5. Organic materials, such as compost and manure, contain nutrients and must be accounted for in your yearly report
6. Organic materials are best applied by tilling into the soil prior to establishment, but can be lightly topdressed over an existing stand
7. As a lawn ages, the total N required to maintain acceptable turf will decrease. On average, a lawn that is 25 years or older will require about half the amount of N during the course of a growing season compared to newly established turf.
8. Use slow release fertilizers that contain greater than 35% SRN