

TURTLE ROCK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION QUICK GUIDE FOR LAWN CARE COMPANIES

Turtle Rock Homeowners Association (“TR”) is taking steps to reduce erosion of its pond shorelines. To do that lawn care companies (“You”) are required to maintain the lawns you service on TR Ponds as follows:

1. Leave a two-foot (2’) wide Low Maintenance Zone (LMZ) on the lawn next to the shoreline. After LMZ is established, trim the LMZ to a height of approximately eight (8) inches.
 - a. Keep LMZ and other lawn trimmings out of the pond. This should be done with a sickle type hedge trimmer. You will not use a string trimmer.
 - b. Use no herbicides and minimal insecticides on the LMZ.
 - c. Do not use herbicides or insecticides that will get into the pond and damage fish or plants that TR plants along the shoreline. The herbicides and insecticides should be labeled for aquatic use.
 - d. Explain the reasons and requirements to any homeowner who refuses to establish an LMZ and notify the TR Management Office. TR will discuss the issue with the homeowner.
 - e. Do not use riding mowers or heavy equipment within two feet (2’) of the shoreline.
2. Blow lawn clippings into the lawn or pick them up and take them away. Do NOT blow lawn clippings into any ponds. Do NOT blow any lawn clippings into any street drains.
3. Follow the Sarasota County guidelines for application of fertilizer.
 - a. Do not apply nitrogen or phosphorus from June 1 through September 30.
 - b. From October 1 through May 31 you will:
 - i. Apply only slow release nitrogen. Test the soil to find out how much nitrogen is needed to maintain the lawn. Limit the nitrogen to the amount needed, if any.
 - ii. Do not apply phosphorus unless you have tested the soil and the soil is short of available phosphorus.
 - iii. Do not apply fertilizer directly to the LMZ. Only apply fertilizer where it is needed. Only apply fertilizer in a way that limits its runoff into the ponds.
4. You can find more details for TR lawn care requirement in the TURTLE ROCK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION LAWN AND GARDEN CARE REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL LAWNCARE AND LANDSCAPE PROFESSIONALS. A copy is available at the TR office.
5. You may also get a copy of the Turtle Rock Ponds Management Program at the TR management office. All homeowners have been given a copy of that document.