SSM5750500 FERTILIZER COMMENTS FROM INTERNAL REVIEW

Fred Noble

Comments:(3/22/21, Internal) My only concern are the words "or enhance" in 570-50.1. I'm afraid that this could be interpreted that routine maintenance fertilization would be okay to "enhance" turf areas. I think we need to be clear that routine maintenance fertilization is prohibited and that only establish fertilization is allowed, and then only when absolutely necessary (as indicated by soil testing). As background, we made the commitment to eliminate routine maintenance fertilization over 10 years ago in order to reduce our nutrient loading to waters of the State and meet regulatory requirements. I think simply deleting the words "or enhance" would address the concern.

Response: Agree; change made

TurnPike

Comments: (3/24/21, Internal) Suggest: "Use appropriate equipment and methods to prevent the fertilizer from being broadcast on the roadway, vehicles, or nearby waterbodies."

Response: Agree; revised to add "or nearby waterbodies"

District 3

Comments: (03/29/21, Internal) Request to add:

570-50.3.2 Qualification of Applicator:

In addition to the requirements in Section 7-1.7.2, ensure fertilizer applicators are trained through the Green Industry BMP Program.

Response: Additional research and statewide review would be needed to add this requirement. Not included in this revision. Recommend further discussion for future consideration.

District 3

Comments: (03/29/21, Internal) request to add:

No separate payment will be made for soil sampling or testing

Response: Agree; change made.

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Comments: (03/29/21, Internal) why is "as needed" necessary?

Response: Agree; change made.

District 2

Comments: 03/31/21, Internal Suggested replacing "enhance" with "re-establish" as "Wording better agrees w/ our SWMMP and commitment to DEP. See Section 3.6 of the Statewide Stormwater Management Plan"