

**From:** [Kathryn Peto](#)  
**To:** [Susan Hale](#); [Laura Reed](#)  
**Subject:** FW: fertilizer ban  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 25, 2018 10:04:01 PM

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Can either of you add this to the 9/25 meeting as additional backup to item 5B (this was added on during the meeting) Thanks.

Katy Peto  
Deputy City Clerk  
City of North Port  
4970 City Hall Blvd  
North Port, Florida 34286  
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**From:** Cari Branco  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 25, 2018 11:13 AM  
**To:** Christopher Hanks <[chanks@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:chanks@cityofnorthport.com)>; Debbie McDowell <[dmcdowell@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:dmcdowell@cityofnorthport.com)>; Jill Luke <[jlake@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:jlake@cityofnorthport.com)>; Linda Yates <[lyates@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:lyates@cityofnorthport.com)>; Vanessa Carusone <[vcarusone@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:vcarusone@cityofnorthport.com)>  
**Cc:** Peter Lear <[plear@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:plear@cityofnorthport.com)>; Kathryn Peto <[kpeto@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:kpeto@cityofnorthport.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: fertilizer ban

Commissioners,

Please see the email below from Commissioner Luke. She has requested that our office send you the below string of emails regarding the Fertilizer Ban. Commissioner Luke plans on discussing this topic at tonight's meeting.

Thank you,

**Cari Branco**  
Assistant City Manager  
City of North Port  
4970 City Hall Boulevard

North Port, FL 34286  
Phone: (941) 429-7003  
[Cbranco@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:Cbranco@cityofnorthport.com)

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**From:** Jill Luke

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 25, 2018 8:11 AM

**To:** Julie Bellia <[jbellia@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:jbellia@cityofnorthport.com)>

**Cc:** Peter Lear <[plear@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:plear@cityofnorthport.com)>; Cari Branco <[cbranco@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:cbranco@cityofnorthport.com)>; Kathryn Peto <[kpeto@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:kpeto@cityofnorthport.com)>; Marilyn Garlick <[mgarlick@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:mgarlick@cityofnorthport.com)>; Gerardo Traverso <[gtraverso@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:gtraverso@cityofnorthport.com)>; Elizabeth Wong <[ewong@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:ewong@cityofnorthport.com)>; Libby Fuste <[lfuste@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:lfuste@cityofnorthport.com)>; Michael Golen <[mgolen@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:mgolen@cityofnorthport.com)>; Amber Slayton <[aslayton@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:aslayton@cityofnorthport.com)>

**Subject:** Re: fertilizer ban

This is great stuff! The work of a TEAM! I will bring this to the commission tonight. To Cari and Michael... I'm wondering one of two things. Can I request that this thread of emails be shared with the other commissioners so they can have a heads up that I will be bringing this topic forward in the Comm. Comments tonight. So, they can think about the issue and solutions before getting hit with it suddenly in the meeting? Or, if I can't do that... can this final email be printed out and passed out prior to the meeting, or during the meeting for the commissioners to view? On another note, my personal video has been seen by thousands and is getting great response. Thank you - Jill Luke

Sent from my iPad

On Sep 25, 2018, at 6:20 AM, Julie Bellia <[jbellia@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:jbellia@cityofnorthport.com)> wrote:

Commissioner Luke:

The following are some additional suggestions for your consideration pertinent to the fertilizer ban:

- On August 20, 2018, the City of Venice invited Dr. Michael Crosby, President and CEO and Dr. Richard Pierce, Associate Vice President for Research, Senior Scientist, Program Manager, Mote Marine Laboratory, to speak on Red Tide. Perhaps we can do the same.
- Please see attached City of Venice Resolution on "ENCOURAGING THE NON-USE OF FERTILIZERS YEAR ROUND". Perhaps we can propose a similar resolution. Please note although our current Fertilizer Ordinance prohibits fertilizing lawn grass from June 1 to September 30, landscape plants can still be fertilized during June 1 to September 30. This is because fertilizing landscape occurs near the root base of the plant and fertilizers are not broadcast in a wide ranging area, as with fertilizing lawn grass. Fertilizers used still must have at least 50% or more slow release nitrogen.
- In the revision of the Fertilizer Ordinance, Michael Gohlen, Assistant City Attorney and Elizabeth Wong, P.E., Stormwater Manager discussed the

possibility of adding a criteria that allows continuation of ban of fertilizers use outside of the June 1 to September 30 period, if there is a red tide bloom of any magnitude in any of the areas along Sarasota and Charlotte County as shown on Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) website. A quick link to this website is <http://www.myfwc.com/RedTideStatus>.

- Questions for Commission to provide direction if the North Port Fertilizer Ordinance is revised:
  - Should we ban use of fertilizers to both lawn grass and landscape plants between June 1 to September 30 every year?
  - Add the criteria that allows continuation of ban of fertilizers use outside of the June 1 to September 30 period, if there is a red tide bloom of any magnitude in any of the areas along Sarasota and Charlotte Counties as shown on Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) website.
  - Should the additional continuation of ban of fertilizers use outside of the June 1 to September 30 period include red tide blooms in Pinellas, Manatee, Sarasota Charlotte, Lee and Collier Counties?
  - Will the continuation of ban of fertilizers use outside of the June 1 to September 30 period based on red tide bloom will still require a Commission Resolution?

Thank you.

**Juliana B. Bellia**

Director

Department of Public Works

1100 N. Chamberlain Blvd.

North Port, FL 34286

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**From:** Jill Luke

**Sent:** Saturday, September 22, 2018 4:11 PM

**To:** Julie Bellia <[jbella@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:jbella@cityofnorthport.com)>  
**Cc:** Peter Lear <[plear@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:plear@cityofnorthport.com)>; Cari Branco <[cbranco@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:cbranco@cityofnorthport.com)>; Kathryn Peto <[kpeto@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:kpeto@cityofnorthport.com)>; Marilyn Garlick <[mgarlick@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:mgarlick@cityofnorthport.com)>; Gerardo Traverso <[gtraverso@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:gtraverso@cityofnorthport.com)>; Elizabeth Wong <[ewong@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:ewong@cityofnorthport.com)>; Libby Fuste <[lfuste@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:lfuste@cityofnorthport.com)>; Michael Golen <[mgolen@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:mgolen@cityofnorthport.com)>; Amber Slayton <[aslayton@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:aslayton@cityofnorthport.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: fertilizer ban

Thank you so much! In the meantime... I have, as a candidate, made my own video and released it this morning, asking people to voluntarily continue the ban until the Red Tide and Blue-green algae is resolved. I look forward to the reply. – Jill Luke

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**From:** Julie Bellia  
**Sent:** Friday, September 21, 2018 9:28 PM  
**To:** Jill Luke <[jluke@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:jluke@cityofnorthport.com)>  
**Cc:** Peter Lear <[plear@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:plear@cityofnorthport.com)>; Cari Branco <[cbranco@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:cbranco@cityofnorthport.com)>; Kathryn Peto <[kpeto@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:kpeto@cityofnorthport.com)>; Marilyn Garlick <[mgarlick@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:mgarlick@cityofnorthport.com)>; Gerardo Traverso <[gtraverso@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:gtraverso@cityofnorthport.com)>; Elizabeth Wong <[ewong@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:ewong@cityofnorthport.com)>; Libby Fuste <[lfuste@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:lfuste@cityofnorthport.com)>; Michael Golen <[mgolen@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:mgolen@cityofnorthport.com)>; Amber Slayton <[aslayton@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:aslayton@cityofnorthport.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: fertilizer ban

Commissioner Luke:

Thank you for your email below concerning the fertilizer ban. I will speak to Michael Gohlen on Monday to see if there are any other measures as a City we can take with respect to health, safety and welfare relative to banning fertilizers. I will also speak to Elizabeth Wong, P.E., Stormwater Manager, on Monday to ask her if she has any suggestions. Another idea would be to have Michael Fear, Customer Service Outreach Coordinator for the Department of Public Works prepare a short video educating residents about the restrictions included in the City's Fertilizer Ordinance. This video would be posted on the City's website and social media sites.

The Red Tide issue came up this week at our monthly HOA meeting and I passed out the attached two news articles. One of the new articles pertains to funding assistance from the State of Florida for Red Tide and Blue/Green Algae cleanup and research efforts. The other article is also quite educational about fertilizers and the negative impacts to the Red Tide and blue/green algae blooms. I will let you know on Monday what our options are for addressing this issue.

Thank you.

**Juliana B. Bellia**

Director

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Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 21, 2018, at 5:17 PM, Jill Luke <[jlake@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:jlake@cityofnorthport.com)> wrote:

Oh my! Is there another suggestion of how this could be accomplished? Is it something that we should ask for volunteer prohibiting? I'm not sure if you are aware that the Vice-Mayor of Venice is going to request a ban as of Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> in Venice. Venice is being eaten up by Red Tide this past week, and they are calling on others to cooperate, too. The smell (not sure of the respiratory issue) has reached WV. I have received an email from a citizen there asking for us to help and join in with Venice's effort. The Venice Vice-Mayor may be finding himself in the same situation... needing the 2 readings. I have read that there are many contributors to this huge outbreak this year. They are comparing it to 2005, which I wasn't as aware of during that point in time, but that it lasted over a year! This episode started in Nov. last year... how long it will last is unknown. It took Hurricane Katrina to correct the issue in 2005 stemming from the Mississippi River! I would like to be an active participant in trying to 'help' the issue in some manner, as a multitude of our citizens want to, also. There was a poll on line in Venice in regards to their decision and over 7,000 people responded favorably for the ban. It is a health issue, and many are concerned. Could I get some feedback as to

how you feel and what you suggest? Thank you – Jill Luke

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**From:** Julie Bellia

**Sent:** Friday, September 21, 2018 3:54 PM

**To:** Jill Luke <[jlake@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:jlake@cityofnorthport.com)>

**Cc:** Peter Lear <[plear@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:plear@cityofnorthport.com)>; Cari Branco <[cbranco@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:cbranco@cityofnorthport.com)>; Kathryn Peto <[kpeto@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:kpeto@cityofnorthport.com)>; Marilyn Garlick <[mgarlick@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:mgarlick@cityofnorthport.com)>; Gerardo Traverso <[gtraverso@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:gtraverso@cityofnorthport.com)>; Elizabeth Wong <[ewong@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:ewong@cityofnorthport.com)>; Libby Fuste <[lfuste@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:lfuste@cityofnorthport.com)>; Michael Golen <[mgolen@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:mgolen@cityofnorthport.com)>; Amber Slayton <[aslayton@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:aslayton@cityofnorthport.com)>

**Subject:** RE: fertilizer ban

**Importance:** High

Commissioner Luke:

Attached please find Ordinance No. 2007-45, Fertilizer Ordinance. There is restricted season from June 1 through September 30, which requires that no fertilizer containing nitrogen and/or phosphorous shall be applied to lawns. However, fertilizers can be applied to landscape plants.

I spoke to Michael Gohlen, Assistant City Attorney about your suggestion to bring this up in the Commission meeting on Tuesday, so the time can be extended because of Red Tide still being in bloom. Mr. Gohlen said that you can express your suggestion at the Commission meeting on Tuesday however, a new ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2007-45 would be required to extend restricted season beyond September 30, 2018. The new ordinance would require two public hearings and also be required to meet advertising requirements.

Thank you.

**Juliana B. Bellia**

Director

Department of Public Works

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**From:** Jill Luke  
**Sent:** Friday, September 21, 2018 12:59 PM  
**To:** Peter Lear <[plear@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:plear@cityofnorthport.com)>; Julie Bellia <[jbellia@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:jbellia@cityofnorthport.com)>  
**Cc:** Cari Branco <[cbranco@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:cbranco@cityofnorthport.com)>; Kathryn Peto <[kpeto@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:kpeto@cityofnorthport.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: fertilizer ban

Pete and Julie,

As I stated in this email... I did not find a date for the timing of this ordinance, but I stopped by the Public Works Building this morning and picked up the literature on it, and that published brochure stated the cut off was 9/30. With that said, I would like to request some way to bring this up in the Commission meeting on Tuesday, so the time can be extended because of Red Tide still being in bloom. Does this require an amendment to the agenda, or can it be handled in another manner? I want this to be formal, so it can be addressed before the end of the month. Thank you – Jill Luke

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**From:** Jill Luke  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 20, 2018 7:32 PM  
**To:** Peter Lear ([plear@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:plear@cityofnorthport.com)) <[plear@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:plear@cityofnorthport.com)>; Julie Bellia ([jbellia@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:jbellia@cityofnorthport.com)) <[jbellia@cityofnorthport.com](mailto:jbellia@cityofnorthport.com)>  
**Subject:** fertilizer ban

Pete and Julie,

I was wondering what the timeline of the fertilizer ban was in NP? I went on line to find what the ordinance said, but I did not see any dates.

What is the date that the ban is lifted? I am seeing that Venice lifts theirs on Oct. 1. I wanted to be sure that we did not lift ours on the 1<sup>st</sup>. If it is scheduled to be lifted on that date... I would like to bring forward a request to extend it until the Red Tide is gone from the area. Thank you for the info – Jill Luke

<image001.jpg>

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<City of Venice Resolution Fertilizer Use 9-11-18 meeting.pdf>