



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF Environmental Protection

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2600 Blair Stone Road
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Governor

Jeanette Nuñez
Lt. Governor

Shawn Hamilton
Secretary

February 17, 2023

Elizabeth Wong P.E.
Stormwater Manager
City of North Port
Department of Public Works
1100 N. Chamberlain Blvd
North Port, FL 34286

Ms. Wong,

Thank you for reaching out to DEP to provide comments on your draft revisions to the City of North Port Fertilizer Ordinance. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to assist the City in your efforts. As outlined in F.S. 403.9337, DEP has developed a Model Ordinance that provides guidance to local governments and sets minimum standards for incorporation into local ordinances, and DEP uses the Model Ordinance as a basis for revision comments and recommendations. Based on this information, DEP has provided the following comments based on the information provided on February 8, 2023 via email:

1. The City is proposing a revision to its restricted season, and as outlined in F.S. 403.9337 (2) parts a and b, a local government may adopt additional or more stringent standards than the Model Ordinance if deemed necessary in order to adequately address urban fertilizer contributions to nonpoint source nutrient loading to a water body. The local government must also document that it has considered all relevant scientific information and ensure that information is available and part of the public record.
2. The City is proposing to delete the requirement for decals on vehicles, and instead require Fertilizer Applicator to produce a copy of the Fertilizer Applicator's Best Management Practices training certificate if checked

while performing fertilizing activity. This change would adhere to the guidance provided by the Model Ordinance.

Thank you again for reaching out to DEP for comments, and we wish you the best as you move forward with your efforts. If you have further questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact me via email at Moira.Homann@floridadep.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. Homann". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M" and a long, sweeping underline.

Moira Homann
Program Administrator
Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) Program
Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration