# **Proper Fertilizing Methods**



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## Lawns

Using a broadcast type spreader, follow the guidelines listed below.

- 1. Start 2-3 feet from the edge of the lawn. Open the spreader only after you are moving.
- 2. When you are near the end of the lawn, close the spreader before you stop moving.
- 3. Go around the perimeter of the front or back area first.
- 4. Then move over 5-6 feet from your wheel tracks and go back and forth within the perimeters. Be sure to overlap a little.

Note:

- 1. Do not go around the corners with the spreader open.
- 2. Do not open spreader unless you are in motion.
  - \*\*Failure to comply with these tips may result in fertilizer burn.

### **Plantings**

Fertilizers are very **HOT** chemically and can cause severe damage to plants if they come into contact with the foliage or the trunk. Use them very carefully.

Feeder roots are found out from the trunk and below the branch tips. This is where the fertilizer should be placed. Apply dry type fertilizers by circling the plant beneath the branch tips. Use  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup or less per tree and  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup or less per shrub.

#### Types of fertilizers to use:

- ✓ Liquid types (Miracle Gro)
- ✓ Granular garden or tree and shrub food
- ✓ Tree spikes

To encourage flower or fruit productions, use a low nitrogen ratio fertilizer. These fertilizers are usually called flower, garden, or vegetable fertilizers.

#### When to apply:

- ✓ Early spring for most plants
- ✓ After blooming for Rhododendrons and Azaleas
- $\checkmark$  Early fall for trees and shrubs as they prepare for winter

Feed groundcovers weekly from April - September with Miracle-Gro according to label directions. The groundcover will fill in much quicker this way.