

LANDCRAFTERS'  
EXPERTS PRESENT:  
**THE TOP FIVE  
FERTILIZING TIPS  
YOU NEED TO KNOW**

LANDCRAFTERS



Take a moment and consider everything you know about fertilizer. What did you come up with? If your fertilizer knowledge only goes as far as knowing that it helps to make your grass greener somehow, we've got some good news for you – we're going to educate you beyond your wildest believe on how fertilizer works.

Fertilizer, in the simplest terms we can explain it (because surprisingly enough, it's pretty complicated), is a chemical or natural substance that you add to your soil in order to increase its fertility. It contains a number of different chemical elements (usually) that are necessary for the basic building blocks behind the chemistry of what makes your grass grow greener, lusher, and faster.

But fertilizer isn't all that easy if you've never used at. At Landcrafters, we've been perfecting our fertilizer game for nearly two decades, which means we've learned a thing or two about how to apply it, which type to pick, and understanding it. The good news? We want to help you understand, too! Check out our tip sheet below to get started!



## Understanding the Fertilizer Label is Going to Help

If you've ever looked at a fertilizer label, it's likely you've been confused by all the numbers. Understanding what these are and how they affect your lawn is going to be a big help. The numbers are indicators of the percentages of nitrogen, phosphorous, and potassium by weight. For example, if you've seen a 16-2-8 fertilizer, it contains 16 percent nitrogen, 2 percent phosphorus, and 8 percent potassium. Understanding this helps you to understand what kind of fertilizer you need for your lawn, specifically if you get your soil tested. This will help you understand what elements your lawn might be missing that those numbers could add to.

## Picking the Right Fertilizer Matters

Having a greater understanding of your lawn is going to have the biggest impact on what kind of fertilizer you choose. Knowing the different plants you have,

the different nutrient requirements of each, and understanding your soil type is going to be crucial to picking the right fertilizer. This can help you decide what, if any, nutrients your lawn and your plants are missing out on.

## How Much Matters, Too

Calculating your fertilizer is going to be crucial, too, so it's important to understand how this works. First, get a good grasp on how many square feet your lawn covers. Either measure it yourself or check in with your property's survey, as it will be listed there. Get a good understanding of the type of grass you have and study up on what it needs, how it should look when properly fertilized, and what it's not getting already from you. We also suggest studying up on Florida specific grass, so you can get a better understanding of how your grass will prosper in the state. Finally, you'll

need to understand the type of fertilizer you plan to use. Check in with your local landscape experts and have them help you calculate the exact amount that makes sense for your lawn!

## Spreaders are a Godsend

If you're reading all this information and wondering how you're possibly going to spread all that fertilizer all over your lawn, we've got good news – spreaders exist, and they're essential for fertilizing on a large scale. Adding a rotary spreader to your lawn care tool inventory can help to create a tight pattern of fertilizer, spreading granules where they need to and keeping them off of places like sidewalks and in water.

## Compost Can Help

If you're not interested in the harsh chemicals that can go hand-in-hand with chemical fertilizer, there are other options to help get your yard going the organic way. For example, you could try your hand at composting. Composting is a helpful way to turn your scraps into a gold mine of soil richness. While composting requires a ton of tips and tricks (looks like we'll have to release a tip sheet specifically for that!), the idea is simple. Set up an ideal location with compost bins that allow for a compost pile to naturally break down the organic materials you put in it. Consider green materials like vegetables, fruits, and egg shells, and brown materials like coffee grounds, twigs, and even shredded newspaper. Don't add meat, fish, fats, or other products! Add this decomposed organic material your lawn and get ready for richer soil, faster!



## Want Expert Help?

With our 20 years of landscaping experience, Landcrafters is ready to give you the fertilizer know-how you've been missing out on. We have a passion for helping you craft your idea of the perfect Florida lawn, and we know that fertilizer plays a big role in that! Get in touch with us today so we can help provide you with advice, inspiration, and answers you need. Give us a call for a no obligation quote and get ready for stunning landscape!