



What does this sign mean to you?

These signs are awarded to your neighbors who agree to abide by Rome's revised fertilizer ordinance! Read on to see how you can become the PROUD OWNER of a sign like this:

The Rome Fertilizer Ordinance is intended to reduce the flow of pollutants into our lakes. These conscientious sign owners agree to avoid the use of fertilizer within 35 feet of the shore, knowing that irrigation and rainfall can cause the nitrates and residual phosphorus ...to "run off" into our lakes causing toxic blooms of Blue-Green Algae. They follow the recommendation of recognized professional applicators and fertilize not more than three times each year, twice if they use nutrient rich lake water to irrigate. They also agree to avoid blowing leaves and lawn clippings (coated with phosphorus and nitrates) into our lakes which also increase the level of pollutant in our lakes. Remember, dumping anything into our lakes is subject to a fine!

These Clean Water Cooperators have come to understand that we have a choice; a golf course quality lawn, or clean lakes without algae and less weeds. In fact, many of the PROUD sign owners have attached a sticker to their sign indicating they are "FERTILIZER FREE", using no fertilizer whatsoever. Keep in mind, many of

our lake properties are loaded with high levels of legacy phosphorus (phosphorus that has accumulated in our soils over many years), so daily watering works better than applying expensive and harmful fertilizers. Planting native wildflowers and trees work BEST!

You'll find all the information you need on the Town of Rome website, under news and notices (Copy and paste: <https://townofrome.com/news-notice>), as well as a listing of local professional fertilizer applicators who also abide by our town regulations.

As we ask our upstream 14 Mile Creek Watershed agriculture neighbors to reduce their impact on our lake water quality, we need to show them that we are doing our part as well.

Become a PROUD "Clean Water Cooperator" by stopping in at Tri Lakes Management District Monday through Friday 8 AM to 1 PM , and we will provide you with the agreement and the sign.

Your friends at the Tri-Lakes Management District & 14 Mile Creek Watershed Joint Committee