UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE

Graphics, Maps, and Posters   Casco Bay Estuary Partnership (CBEP)

2010

Portland Waterfront Sign: Lawns

Casco Bay Estuary Partnership

Montgomery Designs

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When you treat the lawn you're not just treating the lawn.

You treat the lawn. Then it rains or you turn on your sprinkler. Runoff carries fertilizers and pesticides into the Bay. Bad news for fish, clams, and lobsters.

Especially If you use too much or apply at the wrong time. Weed killers and pesticides are designed to kill plants, insects, and animals. But when they get into our waters, they can also kill plants and animals that are not problems. Fish, lobsters, and aquatic insects are vulnerable to such chemicals.
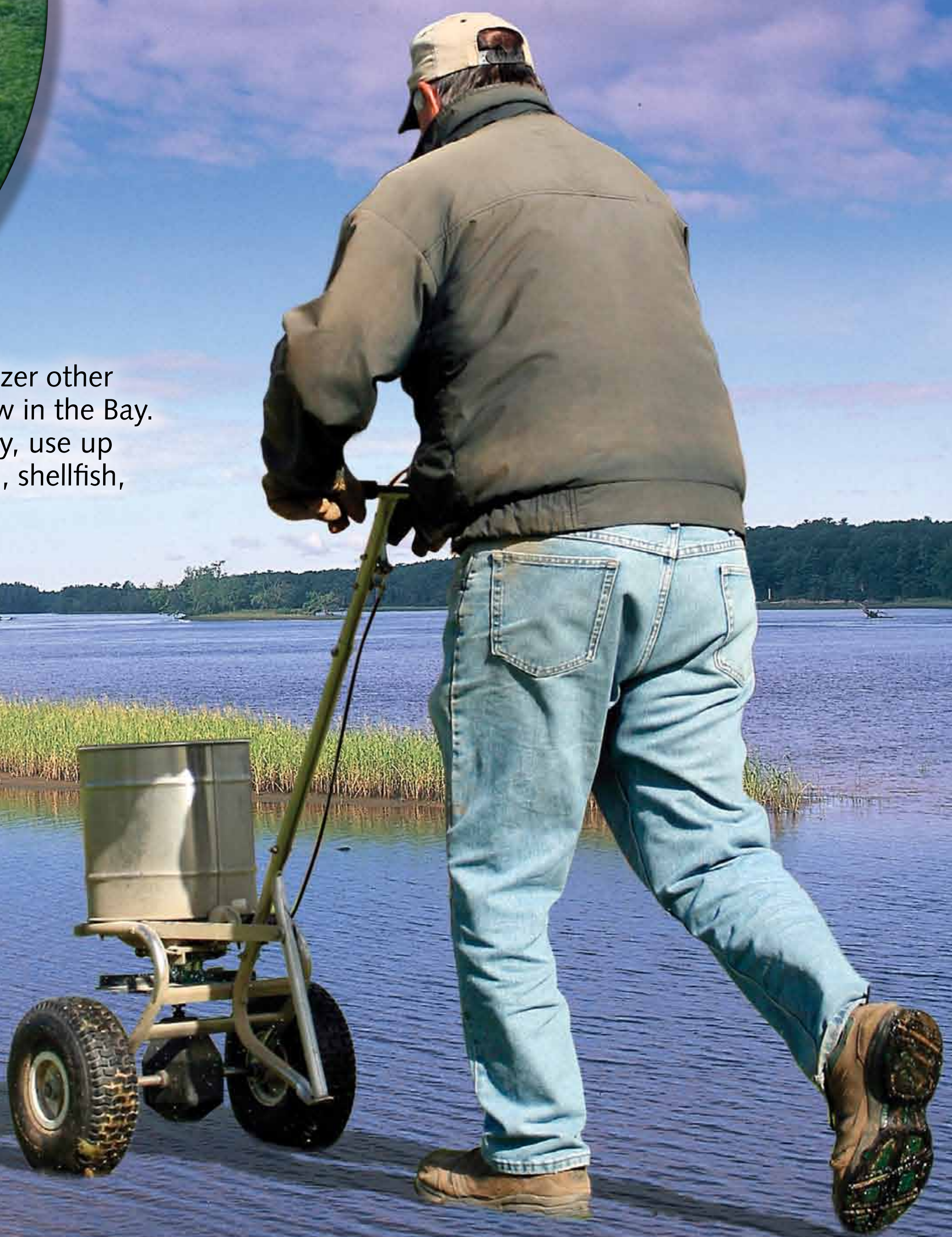
As it does in a garden, fertilizer makes water plants grow in the Bay. Too much algae and aquatic plant growth can make boating, fishing, and swimming a slimy experience. But lawn and garden care doesn't have to be a problem. What to do?

Treat with care. Right dose at the right time.

For ideas about Bay-friendly gardens and lawns, visit **http://FriendsOfCascoBay.org/Bayscaping.aspx**

SLIMED! Nitrogen from lawn fertilizer other sources causes too much algae to grow in the Bay. Algae smell bad, and as they decay, use up oxygen in the water that fish, shellfish, and lobsters need.

Because it all ends up here.