



# Growing Green Pledge

*We want a healthy lawn and healthy waterways.*

\_\_\_\_\_ (Contractor) pledges to \_\_\_\_\_ (Owner) that any lawn care services rendered to Owner by Contractor or his affiliates or subcontractors will be rendered in compliance with these commonsense conditions:

- Lawn shall not be mowed shorter than 3½ inches.
- Lawn clippings will be left on the lawn.
- No lime or fertilizer shall be applied, except as indicated by a soil test taken within one year of the proposed application.
- Only slow-release, organic fertilizers shall be used. Fertilizers must be composed of at least 65% slow-release nitrogen. Recommended fertilizers include: chicken waste, compost, and milorganite.
- Fertilizer shall be applied only once per year in the fall for cool season grasses and four times per year for warm season grasses. No more than 1 pound of fertilizer per 1,000 square feet may be applied per year.
- When spreading fertilizer, the application must target the lawn. No fertilizer may get on impervious surfaces.
- To combat pests, Integrated Pest Management will be used, beginning with over-seeding and core aeration. Pesticides shall be used only as a last resort after specific pests have been identified. Only natural remedies such as Milky Spore shall be used for general application. Other treatments will be used only on a spot-treatment basis.
- Only corn gluten meal products may be used for pre-emergent weed prevention. Other herbicides shall not be used for general application and may be used only on a spot-treatment basis. (If applying fertilizer later in the season, the nitrogen in corn gluten meal must be taken into account, therefore lowering the amount of nitrogen needed later in the season.)
- Lawns with water access to the Bay, rivers, creeks, etc. must maintain a 6-foot minimum NO PESTICIDE/NO FERTILIZER ZONE at the water edge of the property.
- Fertilizer and pesticides will not be used within 12 hours of a predicted rain event.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contractor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date