FYN Principle #3: Fertilize Appropriately

Today on Gardening in a Minute: Florida Yards and Neighborhoods principle number three: fertilize appropriately.

Plants need nutrients to grow, and typically get them from the soil. But sometimes we apply fertilizer to help them along. Apply the right type of fertilizer at the right time for best results.

Different types of fertilizer encourage plant growth in different ways. Some nutrients promote lush green growth, while others support blooms and roots, so do research before you apply fertilizer to any plant.

Plants also benefit from the right amount of fertilizer. Overfertilizing can aggravate pest problems, stimulate excessive growth, and lead to the need for frequent watering. Overfertilizing can also cause pollution of our waterways and groundwater.

Before you apply any fertilizer, make sure you read and understand the label, and that you follow all instructions.

For more information on Florida-friendly practices, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida’s Environmental Horticulture Department, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.