Slow-Release Fertilizer

Today on Gardening in a Minute: slow-release fertilizer.

Have you heard of slow-release fertilizer and wondered whether you should use it?

Nutrients from misapplied fertilizers can be washed from our landscapes into waterways by rain and irrigation runoff. Slow-release fertilizer can help reduce these pollution problems, because it dissolves slowly.

Bags are marked “slow release” or “controlled release” and the fertilizer label indicates the percentage of slow-release nutrients. The higher the percentage, the less chance there is of leaching.

Slow-release fertilizers can also be applied less frequently than other kinds, making them more cost-effective. Your plants will be fed with light but frequent doses of fertilizer, which will help them thrive.

Look for a fertilizer with some of the nitrogen in slow-release form, and help protect our fragile environment!

For more about this and many other gardening topics, 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 Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.