



Request for City Council Committee Action From the Finance Department

Date: April 1, 2002
To: Ways and Means Committee
Referral to: None

Subject **Utility Billing Insert**

Recommendation

The Finance Department recommends the approval of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board request to place an insert with the May 2002 Utility Bills. The purpose of the insert is to inform and educate people about the new no phosphorus fertilizer ordinance and how phosphorus negatively impacts the water quality of the City's lakes, rivers and streams.

Previous Directives

(any past Council actions or directions to staff)

Prepared or Submitted by : Ramon Morales, Utilities Billing Office Manager,
Phone #673-2404

Approved by: Patrick Born, City Finance Officer Patrick Born

John Moir, City Coordinator John Moir

Presenters in Committee (Consent Item)

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)

- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- Other financial impact (Explain):

Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Community Impact (use any categories that apply)

- Neighborhood Notification
- City Goals
- Comprehensive Plan
- Zoning Code
- Other

Not applicable

Background/Supporting Information Attached



March 13, 2002

Ramon Morales
City of Minneapolis
Finance Dept.-Utility Billing
250 S. 4th St
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1339

Re: Educational insert for May 2002 Water Bills

Mr. Morales;

Enclosed is a sample of our proposed insert for the May 2002 utility billing. The actual insert will be printed double-sided on a 67 pound Bristol vellum paper and cut to the size of 3.5" X 8.5".

The purpose of the insert is to inform and educate people about the new no phosphorus fertilizer ordinance and how phosphorus negatively impacts the water quality of the City's lakes, rivers and streams.

I am requesting that the fees involved in placing this insert into the utility bills be waived. The insert is part of the citywide educational efforts of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and the City of Minneapolis Public Works – Engineering Services.

Please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns you may have about the insert. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Marcia Holmberg
Environmental Projects Coordinator
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
3800 Bryant Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55409
(612) 313-7723

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Vice President
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The ABC's of lawn care



Don't include P

GREEN UP YOUR LAWN, NOT YOUR LAKES AND RIVERS Minneapolis now has a no phosphorus fertilizer ordinance

Phosphorus is a component in fertilizer; it is the middle number on a fertilizer bag.

Phosphorus is already abundant in Minneapolis' soils; there is no need to add phosphorus to your lawn.

Rain washes fertilizer into city lakes, rivers and streams. When fertilizer reaches bodies of water it causes algae blooms. Algae blooms turn our lakes and rivers green.

Pet wastes, leaves and grass clippings are other sources of phosphorus that contribute to water pollution.

Anything that enters a storm drain goes directly to a local river or lake.



This message brought to you by:
Minneapolis Public Works-Engineering Services and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

