

USWG Effort to Revisit Urban Fertilizer Application

Two-phased approach:

Phase 1 –

- Short-term effort to revisit options to improve how urban fertilizer is applied to turfgrass in CAST 21.

Phase 2 –

- Longer-term effort to address Phase 7 improvements to both urban nutrient application/simulation and urban nutrient management BMPs

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Phase 1:

- Kick-off in September 2022
- Small committee meets 2-3 times to develop and review short-term options for improving urban fertilizer application based on current data sources.
- Rep from each state plus 1-2 at-large, and a CAST rep.
- USWG seeks to approve new method by April 2023, hopefully sooner.

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Phase 2:

- Kick-off in Summer 2023 (likely 6-10 month effort, minimum)
- Refresh the committee, bring in academic and research partners as well as more local practitioners. Membership closer to 10-12, plus support staff.
- Key scope –
 - Evaluate findings from Tom Butler's work on new potential fertilizer data sources and make recommendations for improving tracking and reporting
 - Review scientific literature on urban nutrient sources and processing to determine if new approaches are needed in Phase 7
 - Evaluate options for improving UNM credit with a focus on addressing fertilizer legislation impacts and non-fertilized lands