



Certified Lawn Care Provider–Training Program Instructions

Contents:

- Description
- Invitation Letter
- Power Point Presentation
- Exam and Answer Sheet
- Code of Ethics
- Certificate of Completion
- Tracking Spreadsheet
- Window Decals

Description:

ISWEP has created a lawn care provider certification program that you can choose to implement locally. It provides an opportunity to educate and certify local lawn care providers on implementing practices for stormwater pollution prevention. ISWEP has created a logo for you to use on all marketing efforts related to this program.

The Iowa Pollution Prevention Program (ip3) education program consists of the following:

A letter to send to lawn care providers in your community inviting them to attend a training event that you organize and present. The training program is designed to last two hours and consists of a PowerPoint presentation (93 slides); an exam (with answer key); a code of ethics; and a certificate of completion. A tracking spreadsheet is also provided for you to keep a record of those that have completed the program. The certification is good for 3 years at which time they must renew it by attending a follow-up training, with a new exam. Window decals are provided for those that become certified and can be used by lawn care providers to market their certification. It is recommended that you add a list to your city website of those lawn care providers that have been certified to give them recognition—and then you will want to mention this in the invitation letter as well.



Lawn Care Provider Company

Contact Name

Address

City, Zip, State

Dear Lawn Care Provider:

The City of **YOUR CITY NAME** has implemented the Iowa Pollution Prevention Program (iP3) for stormwater management by lawn care providers that has been developed by the Iowa Storm Water Education Program (ISWEP). This is a certification program that provides free training in stormwater pollution prevention practices.

The following training event will be held in your area:

- LOCATION
- DATE
- TIME
- CONTACT INFORMATION

This training is scheduled to last for 2 hours and will be conducted by **NAME OF INSTRUCTOR** from the City of **NAME OF CITY**. Upon completion of the training, you will be given a short exam to determine your understanding of the material. The exam will be graded within one week of the training and you will be notified of the results. If you pass the exam, you will receive a certificate of training, along with a window decal that advertises your certification. You and/or your company will also be listed on the Rainscaping Iowa website (www.rainscapingiowa.org) as a lawn care provider that is educated in stormwater pollution prevention practices.

It is imperative that we all learn to do our part to prevent pollution from entering our local waterways. This city is a member of the Iowa Storm Water Education Program and is provided with materials to educate the public and the businesses that serve its community. We hope that you will take this opportunity to learn some valuable practices and do your part to increase the benefits of living in a community that values water quality.

Please RSVP so we can reserve a seat for you.

Thank you.



CODE OF ETHICS

Iowa Pollution Prevention Program (IP3) For Lawn Care Providers

The **[INSERT CITY NAME]** and Iowa Storm Water Education Program (ISWEP) provide this certification in a partnership effort. The program is administered locally with educational resources provided by ISWEP.

As an IP3 Certified Lawn Care Provider I pledge to:

Conduct my business in such a manner as to minimize pollution of Iowa streams and lakes from the services provided to my customers. This includes but is not limited to the following:

- Remove grass clippings, fertilizer and pesticide residue (granules or other solid forms) from impervious surfaces such as driveways, sidewalks and streets.
- Limit use of fertilizer and pesticide needed to achieve the desired lawn benefits.
- Limit the use of phosphorus to newly established seeded or sodded lawns, when soil tests indicate a lack of phosphorus.
- Will not apply fertilizer and pesticides within **(XX FEET)** near streams, lakes, ponds, and wetlands and other environmentally sensitive areas.
- Educate my customers on the stormwater pollution prevention practices that I am using on their lawns.

I will use the IP3 Certified Lawn Care Provider designation after my name in a professional and ethical manner at the highest level of competence.

I understand that the **[INSERT CITY NAME]** can revoke my certification at any time, should I conduct myself in an unethical and unprofessional manner.

Print Name: _____

Company: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

As an IP3 Certified Lawn Care Provider, I agree to defend, save, and hold harmless the Partners affiliated with the development, oversight, and/or endorsement of this program, any of their departments, agencies, officers or employees, all of whom while working within their respective authority, from all cost, injury and damage incurred by any of the above, and from any other injury or damage to any person or property whatsoever, any of which is caused by an activity, condition or event arising out of the performance, preparation for performance or nonperformance of any provision of this agreement. The above cost, injury, damage or other injury or damage incurred by or to any of the above shall include, in the event of an action, court costs, expenses of litigation and reasonable attorneys' fees. This save harmless clause is not intended to indemnify against any cost or damage, or portion thereof, caused by the Partners affiliated with IP3 Certified Lawn Care Provider program or any of their departments, agencies, officers or employees.

IP3 Certified Lawn Care Provider Exam

Date: _____

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

1. True or False. One goal of the IP3 Certified Lawn Care Provider training is to raise awareness of the connection between water quality in local streams and lakes and land use management.
2. True or False. There are cities in Iowa that are required by their NPDES permit to educate numerous audiences on what they can do to prevent stormwater pollution.
3. Most rainfall runoff that enters storm drains in streets is discharged to:
 - a. A local wastewater treatment.
 - b. A local stream or lake with no treatment in between.
 - c. A stormwater treatment train consisting of rain gardens, permeable pavement and constructed wetlands.
4. True or False. Watersheds can range in size from a small neighborhood creek to the Mississippi River.
5. Some common pollutants in stormwater include:
 - a. Fertilizers and pesticides
 - b. Hydrocarbons
 - c. Road salt
 - d. Sediment
 - e. All of the above
6. True or False. Grass clippings and fertilizers that are discharged into a storm drain and eventually a local stream or lake have no impact on water quality, in fact they help fertilize the fish.
7. There are three main numbers on a fertilizer bag that represent the following:
 - a. The amount of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium.
 - b. The amount of nitrogen, phosphorus and vitamin K.
 - c. The settings for a fertilizer spreader.

IP3 Certified Lawn Care Provider Exam – Answer Key

Date: _____

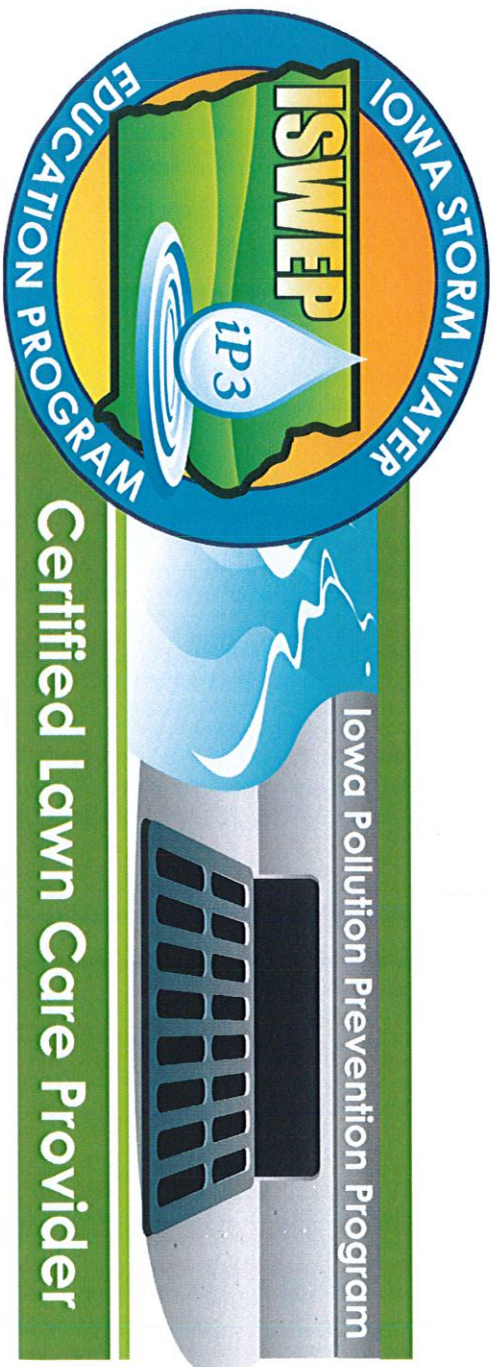
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Phone: _____ Email: _____

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Training Certificate

Issued To

Name of Person

The above named individual has met the certification requirements for a Lawn Care Provider for the:

IOWA STORMWATER

POLLUTION PREVENTION PROGRAM (iP3)

Certifying Entity:

City of YOUR CITY NAME

Instructor Name

Name & Date