



# Nassau County Soil + Rate Card

4 zones, 287 sq mi, from the Gold Coast to Long Beach

USDA ZONE 7B

## Zone 1: North Shore / Gold Coast

Montauk + Harbor Hill Glacial Moraine

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| Texture        | Clay loam        |
| CEC            | 12 to 18         |
| Drainage       | Moderate to slow |
| Native pH      | 5.5 to 6.5       |
| Lime / pH unit | 40-50 lbs/1K     |

Great Neck, Manhasset, Port Washington, Oyster Bay, Glen Cove, Brookville

Delay spring 7-14 days. More lime. 1x/wk watering. Core aerate annually (non-negotiable).

## Zone 2: Central / Hempstead Plains

Hempstead Silt Loam (Unique to Nassau)

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| Texture        | Silt loam over sand |
| CEC            | 10 to 15            |
| Drainage       | Well drained        |
| Native pH      | 5.5 to 6.2          |
| Lime / pH unit | 25-30 lbs/1K        |

Garden City, Levittown, Hicksville, Mineola, Westbury, Uniondale, East Meadow

Best soil on LI if intact. But construction fill is common in post-war suburbs. Soil test mandatory.

## Zone 3: South Shore

Riverhead Sandy Loam + Enfield + Haven

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Texture        | Sandy loam   |
| CEC            | 8 to 12      |
| Drainage       | Well drained |
| Native pH      | 5.5 to 6.2   |
| Lime / pH unit | 25 lbs/1K    |

Bellmore, Merrick, Wantagh, Massapequa, Seaford, Freeport, Baldwin

Blade Boss baseline soil. Standard schedules apply. Sandier near bays. Smaller lots = more shade.

## Zone 4: Barrier Beaches

Udipsamments (Beach Sand) + Fill

|                |                       |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Texture        | Deep sand             |
| CEC            | 1 to 3                |
| Drainage       | Excessive             |
| Native pH      | 5.5 to 7.5 (variable) |
| Lime / pH unit | Test first!           |

Long Beach, Island Park, Point Lookout, Atlantic Beach, Lido Beach

Hard mode. Salt, sand, wind. 100% slow-release. Spoon-feed 0.25 lbs N. Water 3x/wk. May be alkaline.

## Rate Adjustments by Nassau County Zone

| FACTOR         | N. SHORE (CLAY) | CENTRAL (SILT LOAM) | S. SHORE (SANDY LOAM) | BARRIER (SAND)    |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| N rate         | 2.75 lbs/yr     | 2.75 lbs/yr         | 2.75 lbs/yr           | 2.75 (spoon-feed) |
| Max QR N/app   | 0.50 lbs/1K     | 0.50 lbs/1K         | 0.50 lbs/1K           | 0.25 lbs/1K       |
| Slow-release   | Optional        | Recommended         | Recommended           | Required (100%)   |
| Watering       | 1x/wk summer    | 1-2x/wk             | 2x/wk                 | 3x/wk minimum     |
| Core aeration  | Non-negotiable  | Recommended         | Optional              | Not needed        |
| K multiplier   | 2x              | 3x                  | 3x                    | 5x                |
| Spring offset  | +7 to 14 days   | Baseline            | Baseline              | Baseline          |
| Pre-em splits? | Single may hold | Recommended         | Recommended           | Essential         |

Nassau blackout: November 15 through April 1 (Local Law 11-2009). Two weeks later than Suffolk (Nov 1). Extra winterizer window. Lime and standalone pre-emergent are exempt. Chlorantraniliprole (GrubEx) is NYSDEC-prohibited in Nassau County.

Construction fill warning: Central Nassau was mass-developed 1947 to 1970. Builders stripped native topsoil. If your pH is above 7.0, OM is under 1%, or CEC is under 5, you're likely on fill. Fix: annual aeration + 0.25" compost topdressing. Multi-year rebuild.

287 sq mi  
TOTAL AREA

4 zones  
SOIL ZONES

Zone 7B  
ENTIRE COUNTY

Nov 15  
BLACKOUT STARTS

Soil test  
STEP 1, EVERY TIME

Find your neighborhood. Know your zone. Adjust your program.

## Neighborhood Soil Guide

| NEIGHBORHOOD                | ZONE     | PRIMARY SOIL            | CEC    | KEY ADJUSTMENT                          |
|-----------------------------|----------|-------------------------|--------|---|
| Great Neck                  | N. Shore | Moraine clay loam       | 12-18  | Heavy soil. Delay spring. More lime.    |
| Manhasset                   | N. Shore | Montauk + moraine       | 12-18  | Clay. Less water. Watch compaction.     |
| Port Washington             | N. Shore | Moraine mix             | 12-15  | Hilly. Erosion risk on slopes.          |
| Oyster Bay / Brookville     | N. Shore | Dense moraine clay      | 15-18  | Heaviest soil in Nassau. Aerate or die. |
| Glen Cove                   | N. Shore | Moraine + Montauk       | 12-18  | LI Sound wind increases ET.             |
| Garden City                 | Central  | Hempstead silt loam     | 10-15  | Best soil on LI. Lucky you.             |
| Levittown / Hicksville      | Central  | Hempstead (may be fill) | 10-15* | Soil test mandatory. Fill is common.    |
| Mineola / Westbury          | Central  | Hempstead / Mineola     | 10-15  | Mineola series is wetter. Drainage.     |
| East Meadow / Uniondale     | Central  | Hempstead silt loam     | 10-15  | Standard if undisturbed.                |
| Floral Park / New Hyde Park | Central  | Riverhead / Hempstead   | 8-12   | Transition. Smaller lots, more shade.   |
| Bellmore / Merrick          | S. Shore | Riverhead sandy loam    | 8-12   | BB default. Standard schedules.         |
| Wantagh / Seaford           | S. Shore | Riverhead / Haven       | 8-12   | Standard. Sandier near coast.           |
| Massapequa                  | S. Shore | Riverhead sandy loam    | 8-12   | Standard. Near Suffolk border.          |
| Freeport / Baldwin          | S. Shore | Riverhead + urban fill  | 6-10   | Mixed. Closer to bays = sandier.        |
| Long Beach                  | Barrier  | Beach sand              | 1-3    | Hard mode. Salt + sand + wind.          |
| Island Park / Pt. Lookout   | Barrier  | Deep sand + fill        | 1-3    | Post-Sandy fill. Test everything.       |

\* Levittown: 17,400 homes built 1947-1951. Native Hempstead silt loam is excellent, but construction fill is common. If CEC <5, OM <1%, or pH >7.0, you're on fill. Multi-year fix: annual aeration + compost topdressing.

## Nassau County Regulations

| RULE                         | DETAILS                          | REFERENCE                    |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Fertilizer blackout          | Nov 15 through Apr 1             | Local Law 11-2009            |
| Phosphorus ban               | No P unless soil test deficiency | NYS ECL 17-2103              |
| Water body setback           | No fertilizer within 20 ft       | County code                  |
| Pre-emergent in blackout?    | YES (standalone, no fert)        | Not classified as fertilizer |
| Lime in blackout?            | YES (excluded from definition)   | Exempt per statute           |
| GrubEx (chlorantraniliprole) | NYSDEC prohibited in Nassau      | State pesticide regulation   |
| vs Suffolk                   | Nassau: Nov 15. Suffolk: Nov 1.  | Extra 2 wks for winterizer   |

The sole-source aquifer applies to Nassau too. Everything you put on your lawn eventually reaches your drinking water. Split applications, slow-release products, and soil testing aren't just good practice. They protect the water supply for 1.4 million people.

### This is the reference card. Your lawn needs the full engine.

Blade Boss tools calculate exact rates for your specific soil, zone size, and grass type. Upload your soil test and let the Correction Engine do the math.

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