



# Suffolk County Soil + Rate Card

4 regions, 86 miles, completely different dirt under every lawn

USDA ZONE 7B

## Region 1: Western Suffolk

Riverhead Sandy Loam + Haven Loam

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

Huntington, Babylon, Islip, Brentwood, Bay Shore, Ronkonkoma

**Baseline.** Standard Blade Boss schedules apply as written. No adjustments.

## Region 2: North Shore

Montauk Variant + Glacial Moraine

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

Smithtown, Port Jeff, Stony Brook, Northport, Kings Park

**Delay spring 7-14 days.** More lime. Water 1x/wk. Core aerate every year.

## Region 3: South Shore + Central

Plymouth Loamy Sand + Carver Sand

Texture	Deep sand
CEC	2 to 5
Drainage	Excessive
Native pH	4.5 to 5.5
Lime / pH unit	15 lbs/1K

Patchogue, Sayville, Oakdale, Mastic, Shirley, Moriches

**Split all apps.** 60%+ slow-release required. Water 2-3x/wk. K needs 5x multiplier.

## Region 4: East End + Forks

Bridgehampton Silt Loam + Mixed

Texture	Mixed (varies)
CEC	5 to 15
Drainage	Well to excessive
Native pH	5.5 to 6.5
Lime / pH unit	15-25 lbs/1K

Riverhead, Southampton, East Hampton, Montauk, Shelter Island

**Soil test mandatory.** Montauk = Zone 7A. Extreme deer pressure. Varies block by block.

## Rate Adjustments by Region

FACTOR	WESTERN (BASELINE)	NORTH SHORE (CLAY)	SOUTH SHORE (SAND)	EAST END (MIXED)
N rate	2.75 lbs/yr	2.75 lbs/yr	2.75 (split all)	Soil test dependent
Max QR N/app	0.50 lbs/1K	0.50 lbs/1K	0.50 (strict)	Test dependent
Slow-release	Recommended	Optional	Required (60%+)	Sand: req. Silt: opt.
Watering	2x/wk summer	1x/wk may suffice	2-3x/wk minimum	Varies by soil
Core aeration	Recommended	Non-negotiable	Optional	Clay: yes. Sand: opt.
K multiplier	3x (CEC)	2x	5x	Test dependent
Pre-em splits?	Recommended	Single may hold	Essential	Sand: yes. Silt: opt.
Spring offset	Baseline	+7 to 14 days	Same or earlier	Montauk: +7-14 days

**Suffolk County blackout: November 1 through April 1** (Local Law 41-2007, \$1,000 fine). No fertilizer. Lime and standalone pre-emergent are exempt. Chlorantraniliprole (GrubEx) is NYSDEC-prohibited in Suffolk County. Use imidacloprid (BioAdvanced Season-Long) for grub control.

86 miles

HUNTINGTON TO MONTAUK

4 regions

DISTINCT SOIL ZONES

Zone 7B

7A AT MONTAUK TIP

Nov 1

BLACKOUT STARTS

Soil test

STEP 1, EVERY TIME

Find your town. Know your region. Adjust your program.

## Town-by-Town Soil Guide

TOWN/AREA	REGION	PRIMARY SOIL	CEC	KEY ADJUSTMENT
Huntington	Western	Riverhead sandy loam	8-12	Standard baseline
Babylon	Western	Haven loam	8-12	Standard baseline
Islip / Ronkonkoma	Western	Riverhead sandy loam	8-12	NOAA Islip station is here
Brentwood	Western	Haven / Riverhead	8-12	Standard baseline
Smithtown	N. Shore	Montauk sandy variant	12-18	Delay spring 7-10 days. More lime.
Port Jefferson	N. Shore	Glacial moraine clay	12-18	Core aerate annually. Watch drainage.
Stony Brook	N. Shore	Moraine mix	10-15	Transition. Test to confirm texture.
Kings Park	N. Shore	Montauk + moraine	12-18	LI Sound wind. Higher ET.
Patchogue / Sayville	S. Shore	Plymouth loamy sand	3-6	Split all apps. 60%+ slow-release.
Mastic / Shirley	S. Shore	Carver coarse sand	2-4	Hardest soil on LI. Max split.
Bay Shore / Oakdale	S. Shore	Plymouth / Haven	5-8	Transition. Slightly better than sand.
Riverhead	East End	Riverhead sandy loam	8-12	Wine country adjacent. Decent soil.
Southampton	East End	Bridgeton silt loam	10-15	Best lawn soil on LI.
East Hampton	East End	Mixed sand + silt	5-12	Varies by lot. Soil test mandatory.
Montauk	East End	Sand + moraine	5-10	Zone 7A. Shorter season. Wind + salt.
Shelter Island	East End	Mixed moraine	8-12	Limited data. Soil test required.

## Suffolk County Regulations

RULE	DETAILS	PENALTY / REFERENCE
Fertilizer blackout	Nov 1 through Apr 1	\$1,000 fine (Law 41-2007)
Phosphorus ban	No P unless soil test shows deficiency	NYS ECL 17-2103
Water body setback	No fertilizer within 20 ft of water	County code
Watering restrictions	Odd/even days. No 10 AM to 4 PM.	SCWA enforceable
Pre-emergent in blackout?	YES (standalone, no fert)	Not classified as fertilizer
Lime in blackout?	YES (excluded from fert definition)	Exempt per statute
GrubEx (chlorantraniliprole)	NYSDEC prohibited in Suffolk	State pesticide violation

**The aquifer reality:** All of Suffolk County sits over a sole-source aquifer. Every drop of nitrogen that leaches through your sandy soil enters the same water your family drinks. Slow-release products, split applications, and soil testing aren't just good lawn care on Long Island. They're water quality measures.

### 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. Stop looking up tables. Let the data do the work.

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