

New fertilizer rule starts mid-May

Lee County launched a Fertilizer Ordinance campaign during an Earth Day celebration April 25 at Koreshan State Park in Estero.

The Lee County Department of Natural Resources used the Saturday celebration to spread the word out about its new regulation on fertilizer use in the county, which takes effect May 13, 2009. The ordinance applies to anyone who uses fertilizer and governs the content, amount and methods that can be used.

To help publicize the message to

“Fertilize Smart, Do Your Part,” Lee County will introduce two characters: Gen and Russ, nicknames for nitroGen and phosphoRuss. As the regulation bans use of fertilizers containing nitrogen and phosphorus during the rainy season, — June 1 through Sept. 30 — the Gen and Russ characters will be sent on summer vacation.

The Gen and Russ images were introduced on a LeeTran bus positioned near the entrance of the event. Fertilizer educational material was also provided.