

Conserving our Fragile Sanibel Waters: A Community Education and Awareness Outreach Program



Public Awareness and Education

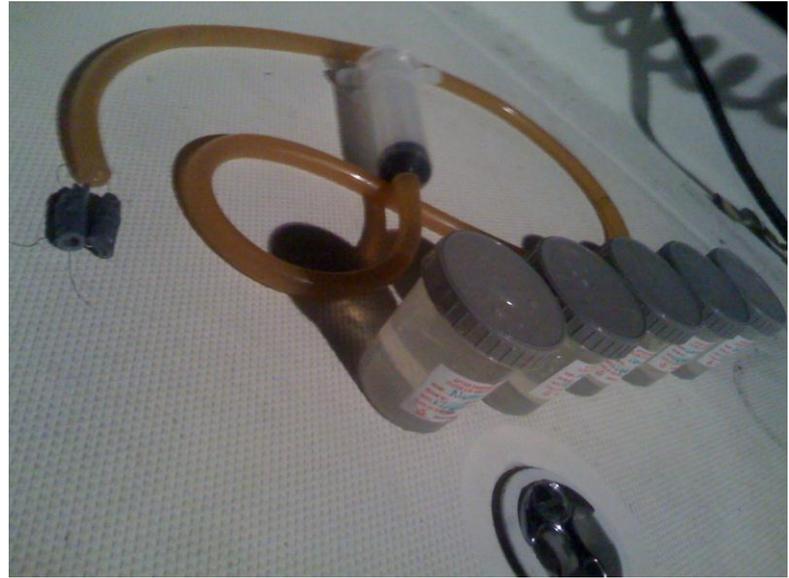
- Scouts and community volunteers distribute materials to homes and businesses.
- Educational materials will communicate:
How average business and homeowners can help
How to properly dispose of chemicals
And how to manage vendors on your property
- Email listing will be used to disseminate educational materials.
- New information for welcome packet.
- Presentations to a minimum of three community and business groups.

Conservation Road Signs

- Through my further research in conservation and water quality management suggested that an improved change in attitudes and behaviors is obtained through environmental education and frequency of conservational message.
- The frequency of message will be obtained by the the road signs as residents and others drive by.
- To conserve our fragile Sanibel waters we must be smart, be clean, and protect our waters.

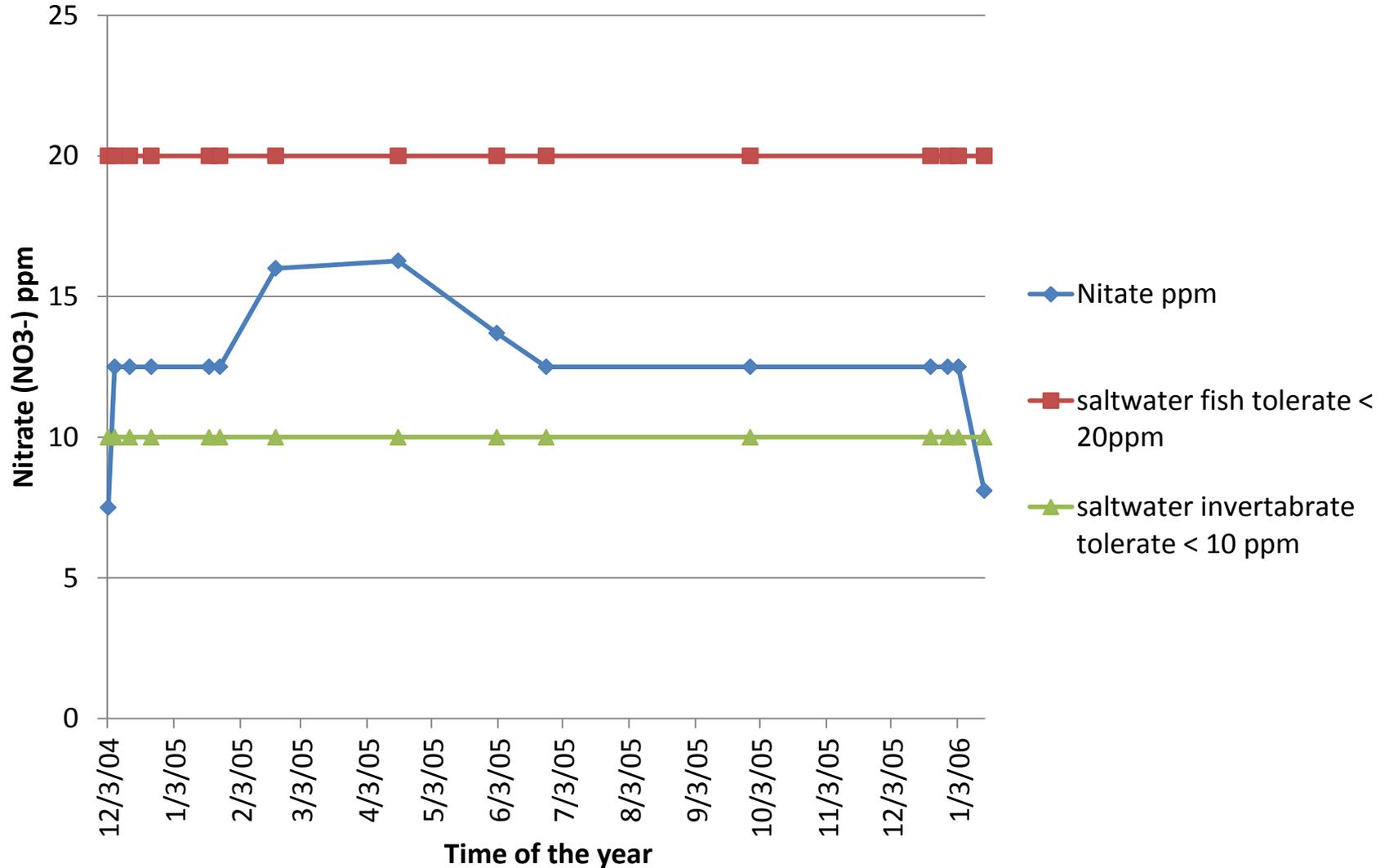


Photos:

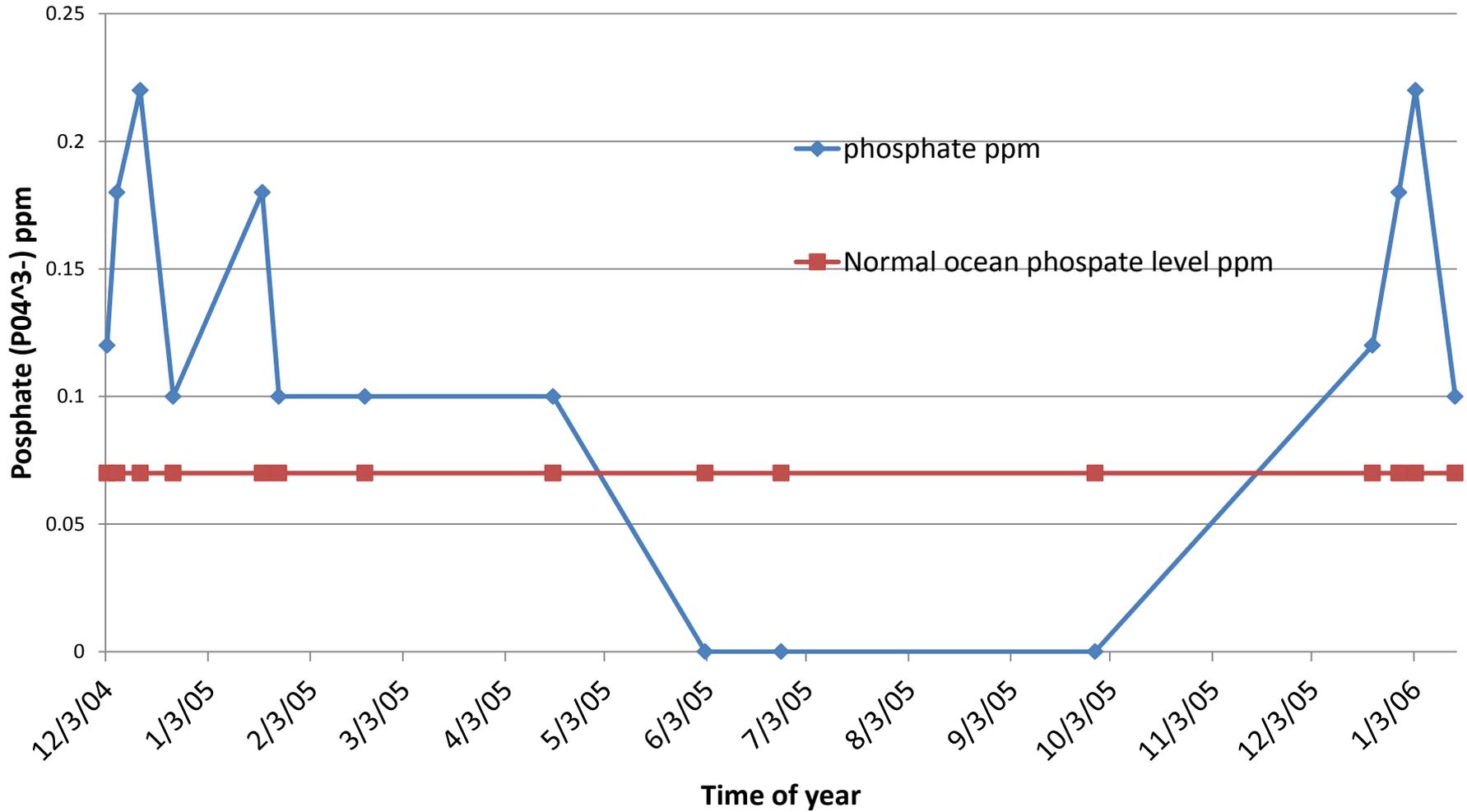


Data

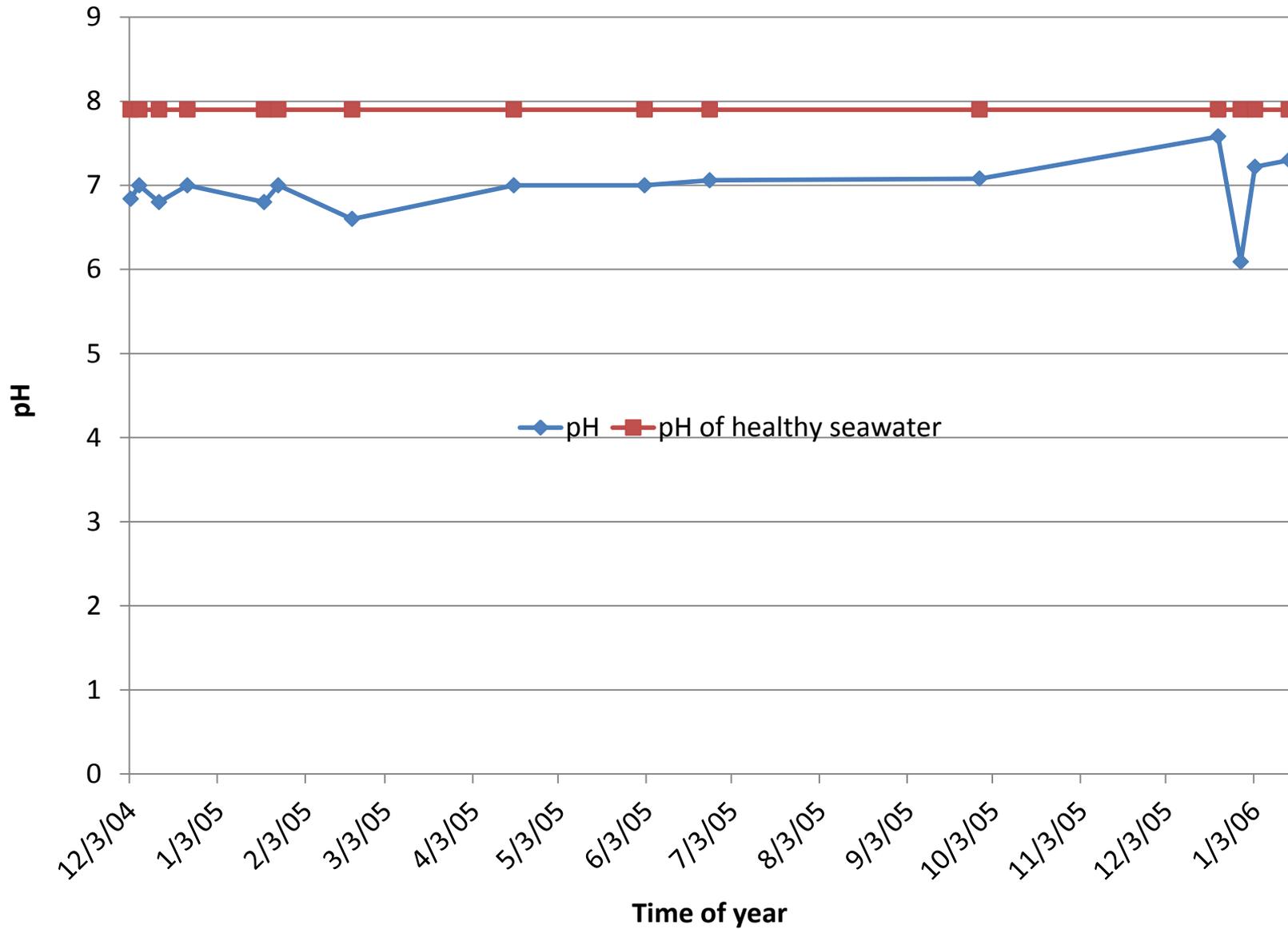
Average Nitrate form 2008-2010



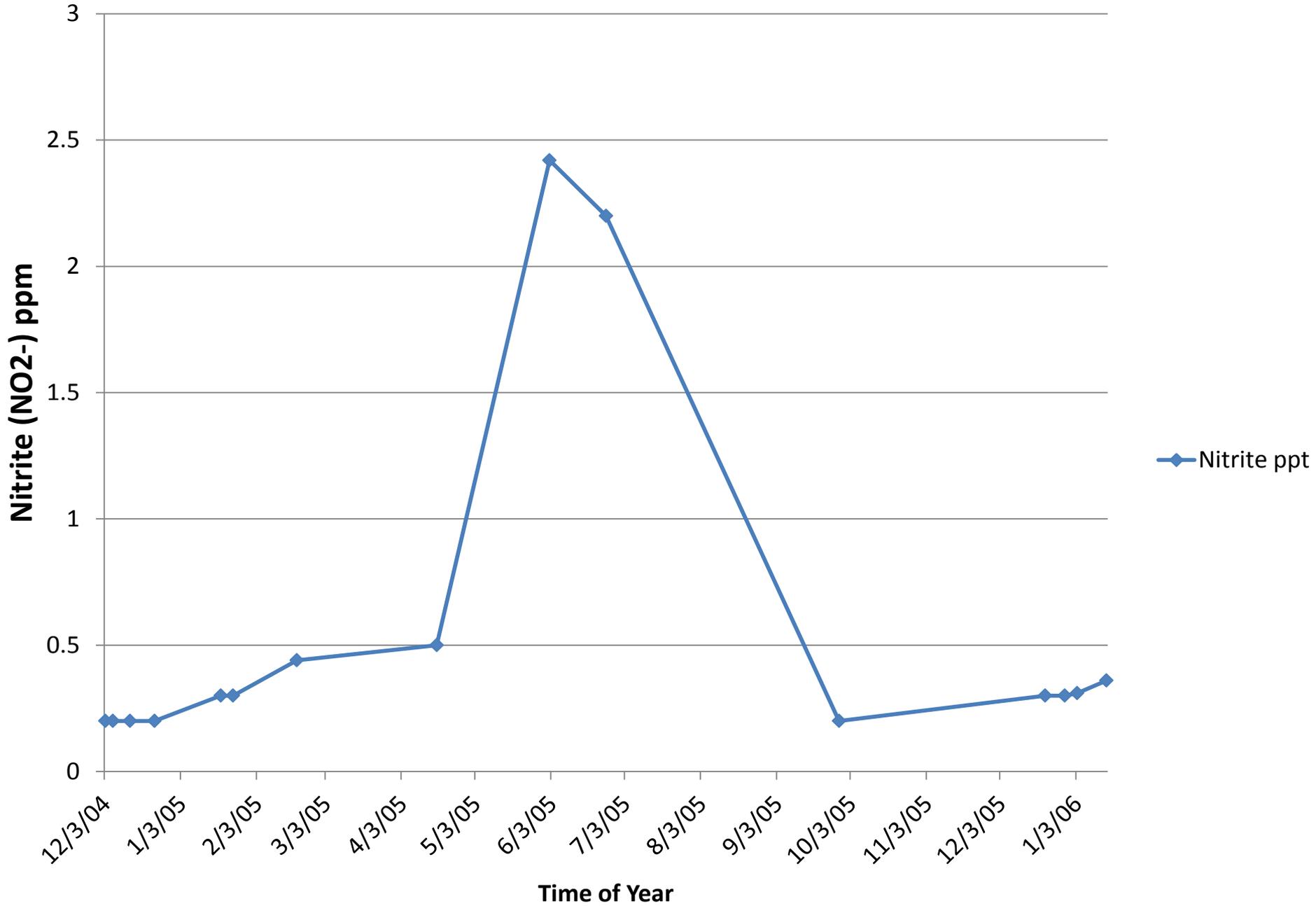
Average Phosphate from 2008-2010



Average pH from 2008-2010



Average Nitrite from 2008-2010



How can an average home/business owner help?

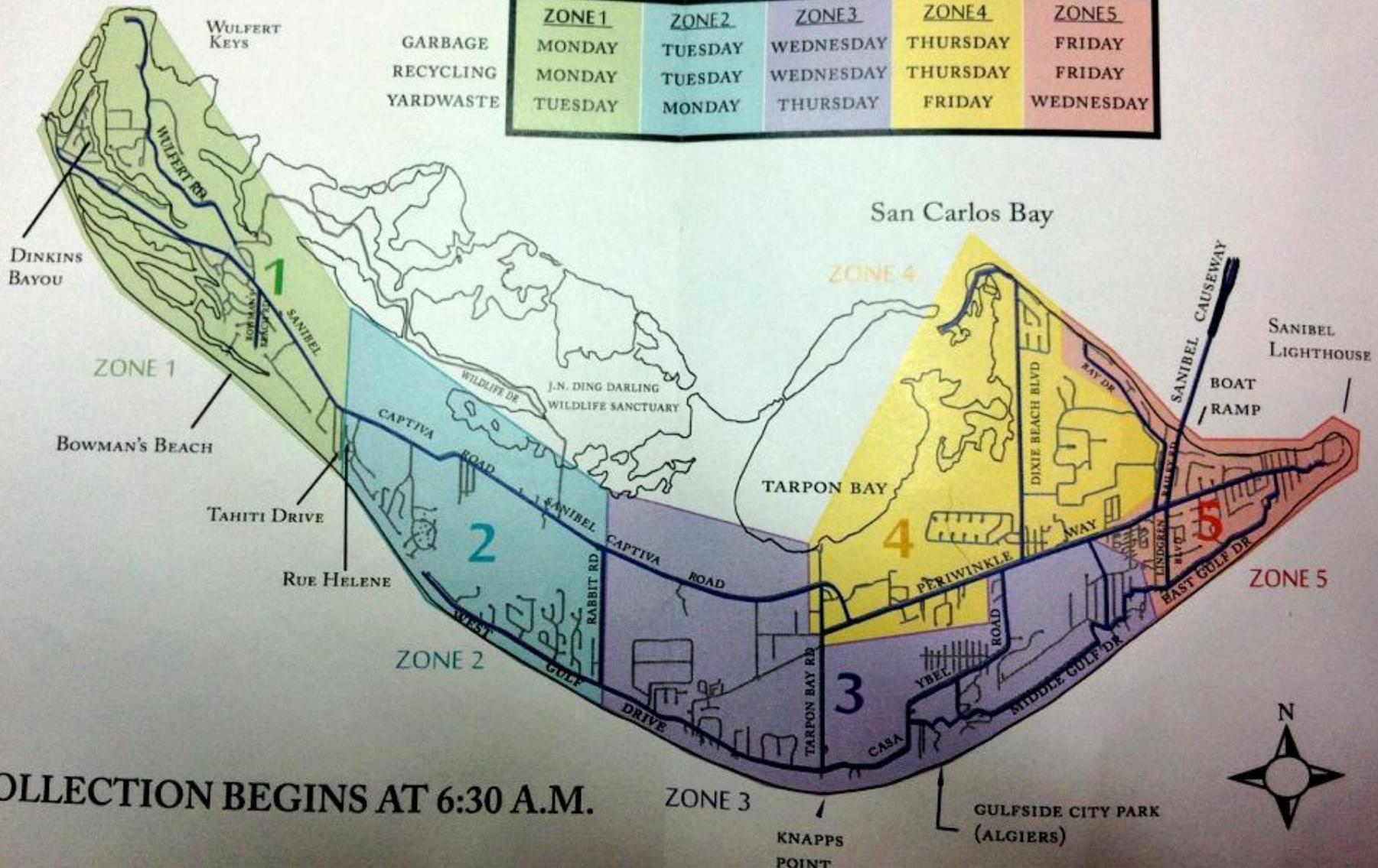
- Disposing of auto motive fluids must be done by bringing the fluids to a proper repair shop.

Advanced Auto Parts: 11591 Gladiolus Dr Fort Myers, FL 33908

- Other household wastes must be dropped off at 6441 Topaz Court Fort Myers. Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-5pm, First Saturday of each month 8am-noon.
- Yard waste such as grass clippings, tree limbs, Palm fronds, branches and leaves Must be collected separate from other waste. Tree limbs and branches must be securely tied in bundles that are no longer than 6 feet.
- Pick up days are on the next slide.
- Manage your vendors by checking there license is up to date with the City.

SANIBEL ISLAND COLLECTION DAYS

ZONE 1	ZONE 2	ZONE 3	ZONE 4	ZONE 5
GARBAGE	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
RECYCLING	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
YARDWASTE	MONDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	WEDNESDAY



COLLECTION BEGINS AT 6:30 A.M.



Fertilizer Ordinance

- Any secondary nutrients or micronutrients can be applied anytime and anywhere
- **Restricted Season:** July 1- Sept 30 fertilizers may NOT be applied during this season
- Fertilizers **MUST** be applied 25ft away from any body of water, wetland, drainage, or retention area.
- Fertilizers may **NOT** be applied to any impervious surfaces and if they are they must be swept up.
- **A deflector shield** is required on all broadcast (rotary) spreaders to prevent fertilizer application to fertilizer free zones.

Fertilizer Ordinance

- **Nitrogen Application:** Applied at a **MAXIMUM** rate of 1 lb / 1000 square feet. The **MAXIMUM** amount of Nitrogen that can be applied per year 4 lbs.

- **PROFESSIONAL FERTILIZER APPLICATIONS:**

All commercial and institutional applicators **MUST** possess a City of Sanibel Vegetation Competency Card and Fertilizer Endorsement Certification. This certification is **REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES** fertilizers are being applied by vendors.

Picking fertilizers

- **NPK** is a label required on all fertilizer bags
Nitrogen Phosphorous Potassium
- Look for 11-2-2 for the **NPK**
- The Fertilizers must contain at least 50% of slow releasing Nitrogen (SNR).
- I suggest going to Ace Hardware on Sanibel they are very educated on the fertilizer ordinance and can answer any questions of confusion. They can help make sure your buying the right fertilizers.

Reducing need for fertilizers

We live on a barrier island that is made up of limestone, sand, and shell. The soil pH is high (alkaline) and there is no practical or feasible way of lowering it.

Therefore it is recommended that residents choose plants accordingly, remembering that native plants tend to tolerate this harsh pH.

Planting native plants in your yards will reduce or almost eliminate the need to water and add fertilizers to the soil.

Planting native plants has environmental and economic benefits.

Table from EPA's website on Landscaping with Native plants:

Landscape Treatment	Low-End Estimate	High-End Estimate
Turf Grass	\$7,800	\$14,825
Native Landscaping	\$3,400	\$ 5,975

Figure A: First-Year Installation Costs Per Acre
(Natural Landscaping for Public Officials: A Sourcebook. Chicago: Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission, 2004)

Landscape Treatment	Low-End Estimate	High-End Estimate
Turf Grass	\$5,550	\$6,471
Native Landscaping	\$1,600	\$ 1,788

Figure B: 10-Year Average Maintenance Costs Per Acre
(Natural Landscaping for Public Officials: A Sourcebook. Chicago: Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission, 2004)

Resources:

- <http://sanibelh2omatters.com/fertilizer/BeWise.cfm?playme=DVD>