



The Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association's Fertilizer Policy Statement

At the Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association (MMA), we are committed to the preservation of Nantucket's ecosystems. Through our mission to advance science, education, and environmental responsibility, we recognize that protecting clean water in Nantucket Harbor is essential to the island's biodiversity and ecological health.

In August 2024, we acted on these commitments with the deployment of a YSI EMM-700 Bay Buoy as part of our Harbor Monitoring Project. This buoy collects data on water quality indicators, including dissolved oxygen, dissolved nitrates, pH, and algae levels. The information collected from this buoy has helped bridge data gaps and build a more conclusive, science-based understanding of the health of our coastal ecosystems.

The goal of this project is not only to monitor environmental change, but also to act on it. The data collected in this project will help inform more sustainable practices across the island, beginning with fertilizer use. By analyzing trends in nutrient levels and runoff, we hope to support more responsible fertilizer use to reduce pollution and preserve the health of Nantucket Harbor and all of Nantucket's waters.

The MMA continues to be committed to using science, education, and collaboration to maintain clean water systems across the island.