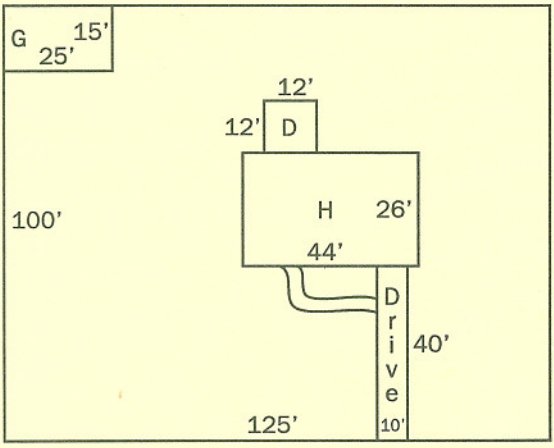
How to measure your yard

To apply the correct amount of fertilizer on your lawn, you need to know its surface area. Here's how you'd get that figure.

If your lot is 125 feet deep and 100 feet wide*, simply multiply 125 x 100 to get a total of 12,500 square feet. Subtract from this total the square footage of the house footprint, driveway and any other areas that are not affected. The remainder will be the square footage of the area to be addressed.

Total lot:	lot, 125'x100'	= 12,500 sq. ft.
Subtract:	house, 44'x26'	= 1,144 sq. ft.
	deck, 12'x12'	= 144 sq. ft.
	drive, 40'x10'	= 400 sq. ft.
	garden, 25'x15'	= 375 sq. ft.
	walk, 4'x20'	= 80 sq. ft.
Total to subtract		= 2,143 sq. ft.
Remainder: yard		**= 10,357 sq. ft.**



Two bags of 5,000 sq. ft. material will fertilize this lawn.

** An easy way to measure long distances is with your garden hose, provided you know its length. For instance, let's say your garden hose is 50' long. The area being measured is 2½ (i.e., 50'+50'+25') hose lengths long by 2 hose lengths (50'+50') wide. This means the area is 125' x 100'. That's 12,500 square feet.*

DCR

Department of Conservation & Recreation

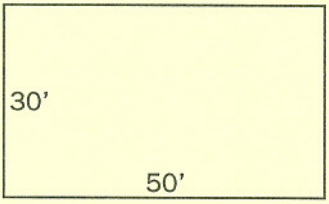
CONSERVING VIRGINIA'S NATURAL AND RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

How to determine the square footage of some familiar shapes

Squares, rectangles

Area = Length x Width

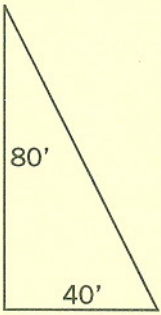
Length = 50'
Width = 30'
Area: 50'x30' = 1,500 sq. ft.



Triangles

Area = .5 x Base x Height

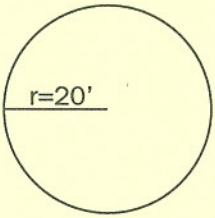
Base = 40'
Height = 80'
Area: .5x40'x80' = 1,600 sq. ft.



Circles

Area = π x r^2
(π = 3.14)

r (radius) = 20'
Area: 3.14x(20'x20') = 1,256 sq. ft.



Irregular shapes

Divide area into smaller sections having familiar shapes (e.g., triangles A and D; rectangles B and C), then:

Area = Area A + Area B + Area C + Area D

A: .5x25'x65' = 813 sq. ft.
B: 15'x25' = 375 sq. ft.
C: 50'x30' = 1,500 sq. ft.
D: .5x10'x40' = 200 sq. ft.

Area: 813+375+1,500+200 = 2,888 sq. ft.