

CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE
Pesticide Management Advisory Committee
May 2, 2023
Start time: 6:30 PM

Minutes May 2, 2023

Attendance: Jesse O'Brien, Avery Yale Kamila, Karen Snyder, Carol Laboissonniere, Priscilla Skerry, Erin Ferrell, Emma Perry

Review and Approve April 4th Minutes

Minutes are Unanimously Approved.

Sustainability Office Updates

Presented By Troy Moon and Emma Perry

The Sustainability Office is actively working on a "Mow Tall Until Fall" campaign to educate residents on an organic approach to lawncare. This campaign focuses on mowing grass at 3-4 inches to encourage roots to grow deeper in the ground. This campaign promotes healthy habitats for pollinators and soil health. The Office will have signs available to give to interested residents.

Emma is working on a virtual lunch and learn series including professional speakers to present on topics that align with the City's landcare ordinance and promoting healthy soils and reduced fertilizer or pesticide usage. Emma is also planning a Fall landcare event in Deering Oaks Park to build upon last year's landcare event.

Troy has followed up with pesticide applications reported in recent weeks and is educating those involved about the requirements and pesticide restrictions in the ordinance.

Field Day Demonstrations

Presented by Jesse O'Brien and Troy Moon

This can be an add-on to the Fall Landcare Event. Electric tool demonstrations from Parks and Rec, Maine Hardware, native plants, organic pest control, active demonstrations, music?, Parks games for kids?, face paint? Audience is Portland homeowners. Parks demonstrate organic land management. Little league involved? Large area with tables spreadout with one table talking about soil testing, aeration, fertilizers, overuse of organic fertilizers, demonstration of the aerator. Channel 6 or 8 has a "What's going on in the weekend" segment to would be helpful to advertise. Current date on hold for the event is September 9th. Rain date of the following weekend.

Discuss Committee Meeting Schedule

The Committee will meet again the first Tuesday in August.

Adjourned at 7:35 PM