

CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE
Pesticide Management Advisory Committee

Minutes April 2, 2019

Members Present: Avery Kamilla, Karen Snyder, Carol Laboissonniere, Jesse O'Brien, Tim Lindsey, Priscilla Skerry

Staff Present: Troy Moon, Ashley Krulik

Meeting was called to order at 6:24 PM by Jesse O'Brien.

Welcome and introductions - information sharing among the group

- CedarCure - tick treatment that committee should review to see if it's allowed under the ordinance - carcinogenic
- April 9th - South Portland workshop with City Council regarding fertilizer
- Jon Hinck's firm recruiting people with Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma for Roundup lawsuit

Review and approve minutes from March 11, 2019

- Tim Lindsey moved to accept, Avery seconded, all in favor 7-0.

Report on contacts with members of the public regarding the ordinance

- Troy
 - Very few calls about the ordinance so far
 - City in MA interested in our ordinance
 - Trying to connect with Maine Hardware on educational materials
 - One question about treatment for ticks
 - Participated in Channel 6 news story
 - One call about carpenter ants in the home
- Karen - create a spreadsheet with comments and questions that we receive

Waiver Applications

- Received one from Cherverus but it was not complete, asked them to fill in gaps and review ordinance again to determine if they are eligible.
- Waynflete - Application included a treatment plan with no changes to adhere to ordinance. No current sign of grubs. Waiver application denied, do not expect an appeal.
- Review process
 - Cannot discuss items over email, should discuss during meetings so that it is part of the minutes
 - Need to share fair judgement on waiver applications
 - Our meetings are public meetings and waivers are posted prior to waiver committee meeting, which is not the case in South Portland
 - Committee members should not deliberate prior to waiver committee meetings

- Can clarify agendas via email

Brochures

- 2 brochures are better than one
- Use South Portland as a base
- Karen to incorporate Avery's comments into her version of the Top 10 brochure
- Post Karen's version of the Pesticide Ordinance brochure for committee to review to Google Drive
- Reverse order of aeration and overseeding in Top 10 brochure
- Recommend spiking in addition to core aeration (spiking may bring up fewer weed seeds than core aeration, but spiking can cause compaction, site and time specific)
- Add UMaine Cooperative Extension Cumberland County as source
- Timing: aiming for the end of the month
- Distribution:
 - Events
 - Stores
 - Insert in Stormwater bills?
 - Included in Parks and Recreation digital newsletter
- Develop materials specifically for youth? Hold for now.
- Get quote to develop Pesticide Ordinance logo

Tabling:

- Home Depot has OK'ed
- Waiting to hear from Lowe's and Paris Farmers' Union
- Risbara Bros - haven't contacted yet
- Maine Hardware - talk to Tim
- Need people to commit to manning the table on a Saturday in May
- Sustainability Office to order table
- Jim Lausier - Peak's Island - Jesse to man

Outreach

- Add pesticide section to "Fix-It Portland" - Troy to look into
- Enforcement - use education first
 - How do we prove the use of ordinance? Cannot test, need to trust people's word.
- Add links to helpful books/resources to website

Approved Contractor List

- Cannot recommend based on certification
- Add disclaimer to compliant land care companies on website

Applicator's Round Table Review

- High priorities:
 - High Use Athletic Fields

- Homeowner education
- Grubs
- Reseeding during correct time of the year

Managing Grubs:

- 1 year lifecycle - grub -> pupate -> japanese beetle/other types of beetles
- Japanese beetle is being overtaken by the Oriental beetle
- European Chafer beetle - largest and most voracious
- Eat roots
- Once they reach large population, animals start to forage for them and tear up land quickly
- Issues: lots of different types of beetles, unpredictable, come and go quickly
- Need to discuss if Japanese Beetle traps are banned under ordinance
- Treatments:
 - Milky Spore - used as treatment for Japanese Beetles, does not work for other types of beetles, can be sporadic and doesn't last
 - Nematodes - specific to each type of beetle, spray into turf and attack grubs, all variables need to be perfect to work - may not survive Maine winters
 - Pre-emption - need to apply treatment before there is any sign of infestation to be effective - first or second week of August - once grubs are visible there is no effective organic product. Can use traps or watch for Japanese Beetles to determine if there will be an issue.
 - Possible to test in late fall if grubs are present? Yes.
 - Rescue treatment
- Need to consider long term effects of pesticides on children
- Acelepryn
 - Reduced risk product
 - Scarborough has been organic since 2011 - using Acelepryn on athletic fields to address grubs
 - South Portland also exploring Acelepryn for athletic fields - PMAC may recommend amendment to ordinance to allow Acelepryn for certain circumstances
 - Acelepryn affects muscles of insects - does not affect bees - could affect beneficial beetles/worms
 - Needs to be applied second week of May in coastal Maine
 - 48 hour re-entry time for schools
- LD 50 - used to rate all pesticide products - the higher the number, the safer the treatment is
- If pesticide is used in a proper manner at a proper time, it can save people thousands of dollars
- Artificial turf also poses issues and has high cost
- Thresholds are key
- Best educational resource for grubs: UMass, UConn and NOFA

Next meeting: May 7, 6:30pm

- Determine tabling events and who will work at each event
- Discuss enforcement

Motion was made by Troy Moon adjourned the meeting at 8:13 pm.