



City of Portland Waiver Committee of the PMAC

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1. Meeting Information
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Review waiver request by Cushing Island Conservation Corporation
 - a. Waiver request
4. Deliberation and Vote
5. Adjournment



PESTICIDE ORDINANCE WAIVER APPLICATION

Pest Management Advisory Committee (PMAC)

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant Name: John Spencer, President Cushings Island Conservation Corporation

Address: Cushing Island, Portland 04109

Email Address: jsspencer41@gmail.com

Telephone Number: John 207-766-2680 (H) 617-680-0012 (Cell)

Submission Date: August 13, 2021

I am a: ☒ Resident

Are you a licensed commercial applicator? ☒ No

REASON FOR REQUESTING THE USE OF A PROHIBITED PESTICIDE

☒ For the control of invasive plants that pose a threat to the environment (*For a list of Maine Invasive*

Plants visit: http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mnap/features/invasive_plants/invsheets.htm) ☐

Required to protect buildings or structures from damage

Please provide a detailed account of the problem you would like to address with the proposed pesticide application. Include photos of the problem/pest and extent of the problem (this may be number of pests or area covered):

Most areas on Cushing Island have been invaded by Asiatic bittersweet, bush honeysuckle, barberry, and black swallowwort. These invasive plants have eliminated native understory plants (such as bayberry, viburnum, and sumac) in some areas and threaten the natives in other parts of the island. The bittersweet vines climb and eventually kill the native trees. In addition, invasive shrubs, especially barberry, are known to harbor ticks.

Making the right pest identification is important and can be difficult. Resources for pest identification are available at: <http://www.maine.gov/dacf/php/gotpests/invasive-pests.htm>. NOTE: Applications for poisonous plants such as poison ivy, pests of significant health importance such as ticks and mosquitos,

and destructive pests such as carpenter ants and termites are exempted under the ordinance. No waiver is necessary to address these pests.

What steps did you take to evaluate alternative methods to the proposed pesticide application, including but not limited to, non-pesticide management tactics, minimum risk pesticides, non-synthetic pesticides, and selecting the minimum amount of the least toxic, most effective pesticide necessary.

We have employed a variety of non-pesticide methods over many years. These include hand and mechanical removal, repeated mowing, trials of organic herbicides, and the introduction of grass and/or native alternatives to compete with the invasive plants. Because the organic herbicides are not systemic, the invasives quickly rebound.

PROJECT INFORMATION

What are you treating? ☒ Barberry and honeysuckle. Note Still waiting for a biological control for swallowwort and will rely on mowing, not herbicide, in the interim for this very widespread plant.

Address of proposed application: Cushing Island on conserved land.

Please attach a map of the proposed application area (*this may be a sketch, however it should be to scale and include property boundaries, structures, and water bodies*).

Map is attached to this document. The request is to allow use of synthetic herbicide (Roundup) over the designated areas.

Is this application within 75ft. of a waterbody? ☒ No

Proposed pesticide: Roundup Concentrate Plus in a 1% solution

Amount to be applied: not to exceed 16 oz per year (one 16oz container of concentrate in a 1% solution).

Method of application: Handheld spray bottle

Proposed timing(s)/frequency of use: Timing will be in October when island population has substantially decreased. Frequency will be once per targeted individual invasive plant,

Proposed date of application: October 10th weather permitting. Rain dates will be either October 9 or October 11. Application areas will be posted with warning signs as were used in 2019.

Please provide a detailed management plan for your proposed application, including how you will minimize the impact of this application on abutting properties and, to the maximum extent

possible, ensure that the grant of the waiver will not be detrimental to the public's health, safety or welfare.

The proposed treatment areas are at a distance, greater than 75ft, from residential buildings.

See attached map of areas in scope targeting only invasive barberry and honeysuckle.

Note: cut stem treatment done with waiver in 2019 was not very effective due to the small diameter of regrowth of previously mowed plants. The request this time is for spray application that should use less total chemical in a lower solution, 1% versus previous 20%.

NOTE: the following applications are prohibited:

- Broadcast applications: the spreading of pesticides over an entire area
- Preemptive applications: the application of pesticides as a measure against something possible, anticipated or feared, i.e., as a preventive or deterrent measure

In order for the waiver to be considered, all of the fields above must be completed. For questions, please contact Ashley Krulik in the Sustainability Office at 207-874-8663.

Completed forms may be emailed to akrulik@portlandmaine.gov, or mailed or delivered to City Hall, 389 Congress Street, Portland, ME 04102.



CUSHINGS ISLAND, PORTLAND, MAINE

Code:

Green – Cushings Island Conservation Corporation – preserved land

Orange – Cushings Island commonly-held land

Brown – Private households or privately-held plots

Blue – Targeted control areas. Invasive plants only, i.e., not widespread area spraying