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Does the city have a weed problem?

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Date: Thursday Oct. 1, 2009 10:45 AM ET

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Jon said
The biggest weed problem we have is the one our government officials are apparently smoking. This is environmentalism overload and what happens when liberals and socialists pass legislation that has no practical basis in the real world. If they want to live like cavemen and do without anything that helps modern man, I suggest they go live in a tent in the woods and leave the rest of us alone.

Dennis said
The provincial flower should be the Dandy Lion not the Trillium.

Peter Parker said
I feel that one should listen to science about if pesticides are safe, or not. If pesticides are un-safe, then they should be banned right across the board... Golfcourses, sod farms, and agricultural. It is very unfair to take away the livelihood of licenced applicators who have knowledge about the products they use. The just of my comment is listen to science, not emotion. Thank you for your time.

Jack said
Sure TO has a weed problem and as well a lot of municipalities since the ban of cosmetic pesticides. As mentioned by a caller the dangers of some weeds are evident and also eventual problems for allergy sufferers when the weed problem continues to grow. And I am sure more problems will result from this decision to ban. This liberal promise, to "give back the lawns to the children", could be kept because it didn't cost a cent to do. But the public was never given a choice nor told the truth of these products. Scientific evidence was not taken into consideration nor was it provided to the public. Maybe the party decided themselves the products were harmful. Our government has agencies in place to study all chemicals placed into any process in our country and deemed these products safe when used according to the label directions. I believe the same agency that is responsible for this has the same jurisdiction over our drugs available for health care. More public education on pesticides, truthful information, should have been available prior to just passing this bill. But all I had observed during this whole procedure was one sided stories carried by lobbyist to get the job done for the elected government. There have been few instances where bans have been lifted because problems outweighed the practicality of the decision and the result



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use. Something to consider. I would support the availability of consumer products on the shelves for home **lawn** and garden use. Make them of the ready to use variety so everyone knows that there is no mixing and safe to use as is.

David said
While Jon's sentiments are crass, there is validity to them. The pesticide ban is foolish. The science behind the whole "cancer causing agents" is severely flawed and dubious at best. All the "save the planet" types have jumped on this bandwagon without realizing that the science facts don't support the pesticide ban.
Instead we have poisonous and noxious plants growing everywhere and the city doesn't spend a penny to control them.
Maybe when children are being diagnosed with even more acute breathing problems and serious allergy related issues people will see the light. But by then it will be too late for the children who are sick... Something to think about while we are standing waist deep in ragweed, goldenrod and deadly nightshade.

Martin said
Its a disgusting mess and City council / Province should be ashamed. There is no proven data that states weed chemicals have any affect on health, according to a Prof. at the Univ of Guelph who has been studying this for years. Its just one big fiasco and we the public have bought it. All the streets and roadways are a mess and most times along the sides of the roads the grass is very tall. Just government getting involved in things they know nothing about.

Linda Ottenbrite--Dunsford said
I visited Toronto last weekend and was disgusted with the overgrown weeds everywhere. The Liberals banned a product that has 4000 scientific studies done listing it as safe and they listed to lies from groups with their own agenda. Shame on the Liberals. Property values will plummet, then will people wake up and realize that not all pesticides are bad when used by trained professionals. Wake up!

Danny Passmore said
The city is a mess, 3' weeds everywhere. The pesticide bans ignore science, are rammed down our throats by the lefties and we all pay the price. My allergies have gotten continually worse since safe effective weed control products have been banned.

Marg said
The Millers and the McGuintys of the world need to finally realize that their personal choices aren't what's in the best interest of the rest of the world. Banning pesticides was a knee-jerk reaction based on emotion rather than common sense. Maybe when goldenrod, nightshade, ragweed, etc. take over the world, no one can breath without using a puffer and health care costs go through the roof, these emotional common-sense-challenged politicians will see the light. Banning guns won't eliminate crime! Suing tobacco companies for soaring health care costs is another lame, knee-jerk political reaction which will cost taxpayers billions in legal fees, no doubt from the provincial health care budget, and will do nothing positive for the province of **Ontario**. But it makes politicians feel like they are actually doing something! What a costly joke these people are!

Norm Clapham said
I have been in the **lawn** care business for 25 years directly handling herbicides, which appears to be the most contentious of the pesticide issue. My supplier is 85 years old and was at the beginning of 2-4D and still works carrying 25Kg bags of fertilizer. Health Canada did a review of 2-4D last summer that was ignored by all but one reporter "The Pesticide Report That Nobody Read" in the National Post June 17, 2008. When do we stop having the vocal groups, with an agenda that they will not be swayed from since they have the conviction that they must be right, sway the politicians to pass bills that have no foundation in truth but rather ifs and maybes and the great catch word links. It is time in the 21st century that we started to use the science that is available to us to make some valid decisions rather than unfounded emotion.

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