

# Burnaby**now**

## Chafer beetle problem resurfaces

BURNABY NOW  
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Burnaby resident Linda Cappelletti is still trying to fend off feasting raccoons, skunks and crows who've torn apart her lawn looking for European chafer beetle grubs. She thinks the city needs to step in immediately. Photograph By Jennifer Gauthier/BURNABY NOW

One Burnaby resident is determined to keep the city from forgetting its promise to find a solution to the problem of pesky chafer beetles.

Linda Cappelletti, who lives in a cul-de-sac near Halifax Street, first contacted the *NOW* in September, after spending hundreds of dollars on a new lawn only to have raccoons, skunks and crows tear it up in search of chafer beetle grub.

When Cappelletti called the city to see what they could do to help deal with the troublesome pests, she was told it was out of their control.

After the story was published, the City of Burnaby told the *NOW* it was working on a solution to deal with the city-wide infestation of European chafer beetle grubs, which would likely include offering residents nematodes at a reduced rate.

So when Cappelletti reached out to the city this month in hopes it had implemented its plan to deal with the pests, she was disappointed to hear it still wasn't up and running. She was also told she would have to pay for the nematodes once they became available.

"It's repetitive," she said. "I paid \$4,000 in taxes and I just spent \$700 on the landscaper, and you're not even going to be giving up the product for free? Do you know how much damage is being done in Burnaby?"

Cappelletti thinks the city should be giving the nematodes out for free, especially considering the amount of damage the beetles and their predators are causing throughout Burnaby, including city land.

"This is ridiculous, and now I have to have (the landscaper) come back here and do the repairs to fix the damage these raccoons, and even skunks, have done," she said.

In neighbouring New Westminster, when the city was experiencing its own European chafer beetle problem, it offered residents coupons for 50 per cent off the purchase of nematodes.

The City of Burnaby ran a similar program a few years ago, and Coun. Dan Johnston, former chair of the city's environmental committee told the *NOW* in October that council was considering reinstating a similar program this year.

When the *NOW* contacted Johnston to follow up, he said it would be best to speak with the new chair of the environmental committee, Coun. Anne Kang. Kang has yet to return the *NOW*'s phone call.

The City of Burnaby's website includes information and tips for getting rid of or reducing the presence of European chafer beetle, including nematode application, lawn

alternatives, and Let it Grow, Naturally (the City of Burnaby's pesticide use and control program).

- See more at: <http://www.burnabynow.com/news/chafer-beetle-problem-resurfaces-1.1847159#sthash.Xtd5PZdF.dpuf>

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## **NORAHG RESPONDS AGAINST NEMATODE INSECTICIDES — THEY WILL NOT WORK AGAINST EUROPEAN CHAFER GRUBS IN BURNABY, BRITISH COLUMBIA !**

In 1940, in the State of New York, the European Chafer was officially identified as a turfgrass pest. It was accidentally introduced from the Orient and Europe. Forty years later, in 1980, it reached the Niagara Peninsula in South-Western Ontario. Its rampage continued across the Greater Toronto Area throughout the 1980s and 1990s. In 1997, William H Gathercole, one of the foremost turfgrass experts in the nation, first reported its spread in Montreal, Quebec. By 2001, this insect had also spread across several states of the North-Eastern U.S. In 2001, Mr Gathercole also first identified the insect in the Pacific North-West, in New Westminster, British Columbia, while local experts and entomologists were somehow baffled about an insect pest that had created a well-documented ECOLOGICAL DISASTER in Urban Landscapes throughout Eastern North America. Additionally, Mr Gathercole exhaustively investigated the introduction of this pest into British Columbia and Quebec. In both cases, the European Chafer was imported by contaminated sod products originating from grower locations in the Province of Ontario. With arbitrary pesticide bans, such as the one recklessly imposed in **Burnaby**, green spaces invariably become CHAFER-INFESTED AND DANGEROUS GARBAGE DUMPS. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-44g> <http://wp.me/P1jq40-4z3> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-7C4> Residents of **Burnaby** had better get used to living with GARBAGE DUMP GREEN SPACE, since it is IMPOSSIBLE to adequately control damaging pests, like European Chafer, without the use of conventional insect control products. Recommending entomo-pathogenic nematode insecticides for controlling damaging insects of turf is mis-guided and wrong ! It would be better to do nothing rather

than use nematodes. Entomo-pathogenic nematode insecticides are not viable, efficacious, practical, or economical green alternatives to replace conventional insect control products. Entomo-pathogenic nematode insecticides cannot be consistently considered as true alternatives to conventional insecticides, since the insect pests are often only suppressed, and not controlled. Laboratory and field tests tend to indicate that the best nematode species are only marginally effective in controlling insect infestations. On the other hand, conventional pest control products fully and effectively control insect pests. In fact, conventional insect control products, such as Merit ( imidacloprid ), are deemed safer than entomo-pathogenic nematode insecticides. NO ONE WANTS THIS #@!!% NONSENSE ! For more information about nematode insecticides, go to the reports at the following Pesticide Truths Web-Page ... <http://wp.me/P1jq40-5ai> We are the National Organization Responding Against HUJE that conspire to destroy the Green space and other industries ( NORAH G ). As a non-profit and independent organization, we are dedicated to reporting about NON-EXPERT PESTICIDE-HATING FANATICS, as well as the work of RESPECTED and HIGHLY RATED EXPERTS who promote ENVIRONMENTAL REALISM and PESTICIDE TRUTHS. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-8DV> Get the latest details at <http://pesticidetruths.com/> <http://pesticidetruths.com/toc/> <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2rr> <https://www.facebook.com/norah.gfon> WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G