

Municipal authority over cosmetic pesticide ban examined
Provincial ban 'inadequate,' says Roger Gordon of Pesticide-Free P.E.I.

[CBC News](#) Posted: May 20, 2014 7:49 AM AT Last Updated: May 20, 2014 7:49 AM AT



Municipalities might not be able to pass their own cosmetic pesticide bans. (CBC)

The P.E.I. Department of Environment is seeking a legal opinion as to whether municipalities can pass their own cosmetic pesticide bans.

During the spring sitting of the legislature, when MLA James Aylward asked Environment Minister Janice Sherry if municipalities were able to pass bans, she said they could.

But a spokesperson for the department now says that may not be the case.

The Town of Stratford's own legal opinion, received in November, was that municipalities can't pass the bans themselves.

Municipalities need the legal authority because the [provincial ban](#) is too weak, says Roger Gordon, member of a group called Pesticide-Free P.E.I. that is lobbying Stratford to bring in a ban.

"We had an opportunity within the province in 2010 to bring in legislation that could have been all-encompassing like a number of other provinces have done, and instead, the province decided to bring in very inadequate law that only banned one chemical. So if the province isn't going to do the job then we have to rely on the municipalities," said Gordon.

The Town of Stratford has asked the province to change the Municipalities Act so cities and towns have the authority to bring in pesticide bans if they choose to do so.

Pesticide-Free P.E.I. is holding a public forum on pesticide use in Charlottetown on May 29.

The Department of Environment says it hopes to have answers on the legalities of municipal pesticide bans by that date.

NORAHG RESPONSE

STRATFORD WILL LOSE ITS GREEN SPACES

With arbitrary prohibition, the residents of the **Town of Stratford** will lose their green spaces, since anti-pesticide prohibition will turn them into dangerous and pest infested garbage dumps — just like Ontario. 80 per cent of Ontarians originally supported the pesticide ban when it was brought forward in 2009. However, because of garbage dump green spaces, support in Ontario has been cut almost in half — to 49 per cent.

<http://wp.me/p1jq40-6Jk> Without conventional pest control products, green spaces became pest-infested dangerous garbage dumps.

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-44g> <http://wp.me/P1jq40-4z3> Without conventional pest control products, playing surfaces become thin and yellow, and over-run with weeds and infested with insects, resulting in the dismal destruction of safe turf playing surfaces. It was/is impossible for home-owners or professionals to keep their properties beautiful by using so-called organic pesticide-free maintenance practices. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-3yl>

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-445> Who wants to live in #@!!% pest-infested garbage dumps just because a small group of activists seek to impose arbitrary prohibition?!?! In fact, when it comes to prohibition, government officials are thinking twice when looking at the experience of those jurisdictions that have suffered the hardship and stunningly exorbitant costs of this #@!!% nonsense ! <http://wp.me/p1jq40-5x1>

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-43V> WILLIAM H. GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G
<http://pesticidetruths.com/> <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2rr>