

Pesticide regulations on P.E.I. must be changed

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In April 2010, after thousands of Islanders responded to a extensive campaign against cosmetic pesticides and demanded that they be banned, the P.E.I. government enacted very weak 'lawn-care' legislation. At that time we asked Minister of the Environment Richard Brown to ban all cosmetic pesticides except the established lists of less-toxic products that are acceptable in certified organic agriculture. This is the criteria that was adopted in Nova Scotia and has been recently introduced in Manitoba.

Instead the P.E.I. regulations banned only one chemical, 2-4D. The Minister spoke of a “stepped” approach and stated that they would base changes in the regulations on complaints and concerns from the public, but, in spite of continuous annual complaints and concerns from many Islanders, there have been no changes yet.

It appears that victims of pesticide abuse, and volunteers and organizations working for the public good, are being disregarded in favour of highly-funded lobbyists for the chemical industry whose main interest is their profit margin from the sales of pesticides.

Aside from the concern about what is allowed to be sprayed, there are other flaws in the regulations. For example, the P.E.I. legislation refers only to lawn-care, not other cosmetic applications such as trees and flower gardens. And there are no provisions

for buffer zones around schools, daycares, playgrounds, hospitals and the homes of other chemically sensitive individuals or people with medical environmental illnesses.

There are many ways to achieve an attractive lawn and garden without using chemical pesticides. For example, see 'Lawn & Garden' in www.peienvironmentalhealth.org.

The use of cosmetic pesticides (by definition, those which are not used to protect human health or grow food, and therefore are unnecessary) is a health hazard and a public health issue. Federal registration of a pesticide does not mean it is safe; indeed, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (which registers pesticides for use in Canada) states that it is good practice to reduce or eliminate any unnecessary exposure to pesticides.

Every year health-care costs are taking a bigger piece out of the P.E.I. budget. Strong pesticide regulatory policy will lower health-care costs. For example, hospital asthma admissions cost thousands every year, but these can be reduced by removing environmental toxins that sensitize the immune system (as certain pesticides are known to do), and that may lower human resistance to diseases.

Government should support preventative health care by putting in place the strongest regulations possible to stop the use of cosmetic pesticides.

Islanders concerned about weaknesses in the cosmetic pesticides law and regulations should object publicly and immediately contact Environment Minister Janice Sherry (jasherry@gov.pe.ca). Send a copy to your MLA, Premier Robert Ghiz (premier@gov.pe.ca), Minister of Health Doug Currie (dwcurrie@gov.pe.ca), assistant deputy minister of Environment, Todd Dupuis (tdupuis@gov.pe.ca), leader of the Opposition Steven Myers (samyers@gov.pe.ca), and also copy to tonysierraclub@gmail.com. Demand a commitment to review and correct the regulations, with a clear schedule for phasing in stronger regulations.

For more information go to www.atlantic.sierraclub.ca/en/pesticides-0 .

The tide has turned against cosmetic pesticides; Islanders want their health placed ahead of the profits of pesticide corporations.

<http://www.journalpioneer.com/Opinion/2014-05-26/article-3738235/Pesticide-regulations-on-P.E.I.-must-be-changed/1>

NORAHG RESPONSE

NO ONE WANTS THIS #@!!% NONSENSE IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND !

Reddin is a MERE VOLUNTEER for an anti-pesticide organization. He alleges that health care costs will somehow be reduced if Prince Edward Island arbitrarily imposes prohibition against pest control products used in the urban landscape. Reddin is WRONG ! Pest control products are scientifically-safe, and will not cause harm to people, animals, or the environment. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-7HR> <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2ha> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-5ni> Growing and significant trends against anti-pesticide prohibition continues in Prince Edward Island, and across North America. On April 1st, 2010, legislation was introduced in Prince Edward Island that would grant an exception status to businesses operating in the professional lawn care and golf industries. Although a limited prohibition was imposed, Prince Edward Island still permits most conventional pest control products used in the urban landscape, except 2,4-D herbicide. The legislation against 2,4-D herbicide was unfortunate and unnecessary since it plays a valuable role in protecting and enhancing lawns, gardens, public parks, playing fields, lakes, and ponds for public enjoyment. Overwhelming scientific evidence has clearly demonstrated that 2,4-D herbicide is scientifically safe and will cause no harm. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-6Lq> <http://wp.me/P1jq40-1J8> Nonetheless, the government of Prince Edward Island made some right choices, and deserves congratulation. Prince Edward Island's decision confirms that the public rejects prohibition. This public attitude was also confirmed in a recent poll conducted by Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association (CCSPA). <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2bo> The ONLY people who demand prohibition are a small group of activists with vested interests in concocting imaginary danger against pest control products. Moreover, there are dozens of jurisdictions that are stopping or rescinding or limiting anti-pesticide prohibition, or granting professional lawn care businesses with an exception status — Alberta (Province), Altona (Manitoba), Ashland (Oregon), Beaumont (Alberta), Belleville (Ontario), British Columbia (Province), Calgary (Alberta), Campbell River (British Columbia), Chicago (Illinois), Durango (Colorado), Edmonton (Alberta), Everett (Washington), Guelph (Ontario), Guelph-Eramosa (Ontario), Kamloops (British Columbia), Kelowna (British Columbia), Merritt (British Columbia), New Brunswick (Province), Newfoundland & Labrador (

Province), Ogunquit (Maine), Port Alberni (British Columbia), Portage La Prairie (Manitoba), Prince Edward Island (Province), Quebec (Prohibition Invalidated When Lawsuit Defeated Ban), Regina (Saskatchewan), Rossland (British Columbia), Salmon Arm (British Columbia), Scarborough (Maine), Saint John's (Newfoundland & Labrador), Steinbach (Manitoba), Stuartburn (Manitoba), Vernon (British Columbia), Winkler (Manitoba).

<http://wp.me/P1jq40-1JO> THERE ARE GROWING AND SIGNIFICANT TRENDS AGAINST ANTI-PESTICIDE PROHIBITION. NO ONE WANTS THIS #@!!% NONSENSE ! NORAHG is the National Organization Responding Against HUJE that seek to harm the Green space industry. WILLIAM H. GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G. Get the latest details at [The Pesticide Truths Web-Site](#) and go to [The Complete Library Of Web-Pages, Reports, & References](#).