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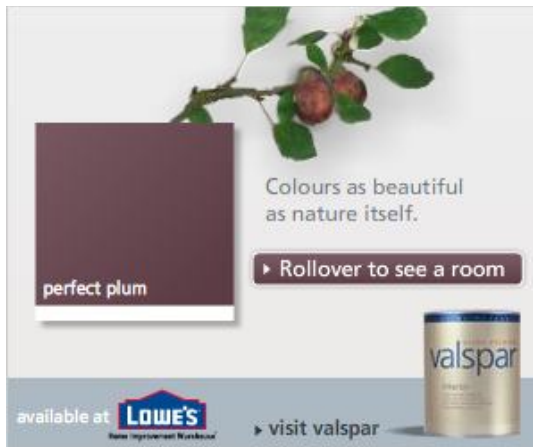
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## The great pesticide debate

## City committee to vote on the phasing out of cosmetic pesticides on Wednesday

Emma Gilchrist, Calgary Herald

Published: Friday, June 20, 2008

"That is the side of the business that is growing most quickly," Nix says. "They (organic products) work a lot better over the long term."

Nevertheless, a pesticide ban doesn't sit well with Nix, who says certain situations require them, such as infestations of sports fields or trees.

Pincott says companies have a misplaced fear about a pesticide ban hurting their businesses.

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"If we take a look at what has happened in other jurisdictions, the landscaping industry has boomed," Pincott says, pointing to Halifax.

McLeod says a ban gives companies the opportunity to capitalize on organic lawn care.

But Pincott concedes the public will have to adjust.

"There will be some dandelions on sports fields," he says. "But that has never hurt anybody."

Ultimately, where you stand on the great pesticide debate depends on how much you trust the Pest Management Regulatory Agency review and how you feel about erring on the side of caution -- oh, and how high your tolerance is for dandelions.

The Green Guide runs every Friday in Real Life. Find all of the articles online at [calgaryherald.com/greenguide](http://calgaryherald.com/greenguide).

E-mail [egilchrist@theherald.canwest.com](mailto:egilchrist@theherald.canwest.com).

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### What You Can Do

You can attend the city's standing committee meeting on Wednesday, June 25 at City Hall. Doors open at 9 a.m. and the meeting gets underway at 9:30 a.m.

Members of the public get five minutes each to speak to the committee.

You can also call your alderman by dialling 268-2430 or send an e-mail to [firstname.lastname@calgary.ca](mailto:firstname.lastname@calgary.ca)

If the committee votes in favour of the pesticide phase-out implementation plan, it will go to city council for ratification.

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Online Features

CalgaryHerald.com

Have Your Say:

Tell us what you think of banning cosmetic pesticides by visiting [calgaryherald.com/greenguide](http://calgaryherald.com/greenguide)

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