

Ideas from Other Lawn Chemical Ordinances

Range of options for ordinances to restrict Pesticides

Restrictions on the use of pesticides and fertilizers range from citizen campaigns to ordinances and by-laws. Below are some of the approaches that communities, states, and provinces have adopted to address the use of lawn chemicals.

A number of Maine towns have adopted local ordinances to control pesticide use. If other municipalities want to consider their own ordinances they must follow the guidelines established by the Legislature found in 22 MRSA Section 1471-T. For a list of municipal ordinances in Maine, see http://www.maine.gov/dacf/php/pesticides/public/municipal_ordinances.shtml.

Voluntary guidelines/emphasizing education and recognition, such as pledge, website recognition, and yard sign (Kennebunkport, Camden)

Follow Maine Board of Pesticides Control's Best Management Practices (Biddeford)

A study on the use of pesticides and alternatives in the community (2010 NH bill HB 1456)

Restrictions on spraying and storage— for bad weather, proximity to water bodies, aerial application (several towns, especially in commercial farming areas)

Ban on spraying specific chemicals, i.e., Neonicotinoids and Insect Growth Regulators (Harpwell)

Restrictions on playing fields

Restrictions on all public properties, encouraged on private properties

Ban on public properties, except municipal golf courses

Ban on public properties, with exceptions for public health and safety (Rockland, Camden, Brunswick, and Scarborough)

Ban on all public properties, including parks and schools, as well as private nursery schools and day care centers, wherever children congregate (proposed bill, not passed)

Ban on outdoor application of pesticides on all public and private land, with exemptions for protecting public health and safety (Ogunquit)

Range of options for ordinances to restrict Fertilizers

Best Management Practices for Fertilizer Application (Nantucket)

Ban weed and feed products (most of Canada)

See Ontario's Cosmetic Pesticide Ban Act (*Chapter 11 of the Statutes of Ontario, 2008*)
(http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/bills/bills_detail.do?BillID=1967)

BANS: more than 250 pesticides/95 ingredients for cosmetic purposes, as, Weed out, weed and feed herbicide/fertilizer mixtures of 2,4D, Dicamba, and MCPP, pesticides with ingredients Glyphosate and Glufosinate (in Roundup and Wipeout herbicides) except to use to get rid of poison ivy

EXEMPTIONS: Arboriculture: licensed exterminators can use to protect the health of trees

Golf courses, but must be IPM accredited

Public health or safety (as, poison ivy, wasps, mosquitoes and West Nile Disease carriers, termites

National level sports competitions – only for the duration of tournament

Ontario law supersedes local laws, but Quebec's does not

Restriction on use of Nitrogen-rich fertilizers (NJ, 2011, final phase-in January 2013)

- **Rigid standards for labeling** on retail fertilizers/ limits content: 20% of nitrogen in fertilizers must be slow release, limits on water-soluble and total nitrogen by weight, different for professionals and consumers
- **Establishes buffers:** Consumers can not apply within 25 ft. of water body; professionals' buffer is 10 ft.
- Fertilizers **may no longer contain phosphorus** except in special circumstances indicated by soil test or when establishing new turf
- **Prohibits application during or just before a heavy rainfall, on impervious surfaces, or on frozen ground**
- **Limits the time when fertilizers can be used.** Blackout dates for consumers: Nov 15 through March 1; professionals: Dec.1 through March 1
- **Exempted:** commercial farms and golf courses
- Requires professionals applicators to undergo **training** and become certified
- **Sets fines** for noncompliance