

**SOUTH PORTLAND PEST MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING NOTES
9/9/20 (5:30-6:30 PM) – ZOOM MEETING**

ATTENDEES

Residents / Taxpayers	MBPC-Licensed Professionals	Agronomist
Andrew Capelluti Cathy Chapman Linden Thigpen	Justin Nichols Todd Robbins	Jesse O'Brien (Chair)
City Staff	Guests	
Julie Rosenbach Fred Dillon (notes)	None	

1. Review the proposed changes to the Pesticide Use Ordinance (ATTACHMENT)

- Discussion of exemption for performance turf and where the PMAC stands on the issue
 - Concerns with “backsliding”
 - Concerns with exempting performance turf for synthetics because there are currently no organic alternatives
 - Cathy: don’t give an exemption but go organic with more resources; if no to more resources then consider exemption
 - Julie: we can talk about funding but it won’t go into ordinance language
 - Julie: before suggesting that the council put more \$ it would be good to know what he’s gotten for funding
 - Cathy: there are ways of dealing with these thing organically – one of these is resodding
 - Justin: Rick says he hasn’t been able to do everything he needs to do – he may be understaffed and need more resources and to aerate more deeply
 - Cathy: mowing is not at right level
 - Jesse: there’s no organic control once the grubs show up; as Chip has said some times there needs to be a chemical intervention – least toxic is most important and best time at preventative and not curative
 - Justin: question about effectiveness of GrubX – looks like it’s more available and more effective; Ohio State research makes it sound like a great product
 - Jesse: neighboring community uses Galleria but not very effective with all grubs – esp. European Chafer
 - Cathy: Eldredge has it and doesn’t have a problem
 - Cathy: Rick hasn’t tried these organic practices
 - Fred: maybe we should get Rick back since some of us seem to have different recollections of what he said
 - Justin: Rick’s concerns with injuries and liabilities – Rachel didn’t think these were real issues; need to consider economics wasn’t included as consideration

- Cathy: wants to support Rick – he said he wasn't able to do these things; never be able to get out of these issues unless he employs all of these organic practices
- Julie: whether Rick has been able to do what he's supposed to be doing is a separate issue; he's got an organic management plan specifically for Wainwright; if he's not doing what he's supposed to be doing; question is whether we make this a transition that there isn't anything that's going to work for grubs; Rick can still state his case with a waiver
- Linden: Rick's idea of what he wants his fields to look like may be overboard; fields that are above and beyond what's actually necessary; would be nice to qualify the levels of how good a field is; we may need to lower our expectations
- Jesse: he does manage different fields differently
- Andrew: played sports (soccer and baseball) on all kinds of different fields throughout NE; brings in quite a bit of \$; if fields aren't good they won't come; wouldn't be unrealistic for folks to begin requesting astroturf
- Justin: performance turf is only synthetic?
- Jesse: let's get back to the pest – we want to be able to give waivers for preemptive applications for white grub complex
- Justin: can the exemption have a renewability or sunset clause?
- Jesse: context with City of Portland currently exempts fields for preemptive application
- Cathy: OK with transitioning and allowing for rescue treatments and not sure why it should be onerous
- Jesse: important to recognize expertise of City staff
- Andrew: Rick says we're really focused on a small area relative to other areas; maybe recommend plastic turf for HS fields
- Jesse: \$89K per 80K square feet; plastic field is about \$1.3M that lasts about 10 years
- Justin: propose to include sunset clause – modify
- Julie: may not want to include specific sunset clause given ordinance already requires PMAC/LMAC to conduct ordinance review every 3 years and could discontinue exemption at that time
- Cathy: importance of ensuring that Wainwright manager is actually constantly trying organic practices; how do we ensure that they're actually doing this?
- Jesse: we need to encourage manager to try other practices; also fields have organic management plan and the ordinance applies
- Julie: concerns about specificity of language for sunset provision
- PMAC reaches consensus on allowing exemption for use of chlorantraniliprole (least toxic) with conditions noted below; Julie will work with corp counsel on specific language
- PMAC's role at next week's workshop? Would be helpful to have PMAC members there too – next Tues
- Process: after this workshop there will probably be 2 readings with opportunity for public comment (5 mins at regular meeting and 2 mins at workshop)
- FD will send PMAC final version of ordinance along with draft notes from this meeting
- Waiver appeals: will go full committee rather than City Manager.

- PMAC --> LMAC: The Pest Management Advisory Committee (PMAC) will become the Landcare Management Advisory Committee (LMAC)
 - Staff role on this committee expanded to include the City's Stormwater Program Coordinator or a City staff person with the relevant experience as determined by the Sustainability Director and City Manager.
 - Education & outreach: this section has just been updated and cleaned up – covers a range of outreach methods that the LMAC will work with the Sustainability Department to implement.
 - Enforcement: most of the work to ensure compliance with this ordinance will be conducted through education and outreach, however we are recommending adding teeth to make this ordinance on par with other city ordinances
2. Other Items?
- PMAC / LMAC may want to make changes to fertilizer ordinance so perhaps could meet next week?
3. Adjourn

NEXT MEETING: 10/5/20 from 5-6:30 PM via Zoom – or sooner depending on when 1st reading happens

- (a) Grub control on performance turf application - Products with only the active ingredient chlorantraniliprole are permitted for the control of root feeding white beetle grubs, caterpillars, plant feeding beetles, and certain other phytophagous insects on performance turf; provided, however, that such applications are limited to one every other year;
- (b) This exemption will sunset after 3 years (allows us to determine whether org alts are working but we can make recommendations to Council for changes at any time)
- (c) The LMAC will conduct and ongoing review of the current scientific literature / research on effective available organic alternatives and will recommend discontinuance of the use of chlorantraniliprole when such alternaive(s) is/are available

** Consider the language in red for the memo and not for the ordinance because it needs to be very clear and specific; if we want to make a sunset provision we should identify a specific year (e.g., 3 years from date of enactment)*