



Pesticide Use Ordinance

The City of South Portland **restricts the use of toxic synthetic pesticides** on all public and private property to protect the health of our people, pets, pollinators, and waterways.

What if I have weed or pest problems?

The City **allows the use of organic pesticides** that have one of these labels visible on the front:



Some allowed organic pesticides include:

- Horticultural and insecticidal soaps
- Vinegar-based herbicides
- Essential oil-based pesticides
- Diatomaceous earth
- Biological-based pesticides (e.g. bacillus thuringiensis)

The pesticide ordinance allows property owners to use synthetic pesticides to address hazards such as poison ivy or ticks, to manage invasive insect species, and to control structure-damaging insects like termites.

What pesticides are prohibited?

All pesticides (organic and synthetic) are prohibited within 75 feet of a water body or wetland within the City (including ponds, rivers, streams, tidal areas, coastal or freshwater wetlands.)

The use of synthetic pesticides is prohibited for all turf, landscape, and outdoor pest management on both public and private property, including:

- Lawns
- Vegetable and ornamental gardens
- Landscaped areas
- Patios
- Driveways
- Parks and playing fields

Any person found to be in violation of this ordinance will receive a letter of warning; additional violations will be punished with fines up to \$1,000.

We're here to help! Learn more about approved products and how to care for your yard and garden without pesticides:

growhealthysouthportland.org

Open your smartphone camera and point it here:

