AGENDA
Fertilizer Ordinance Meeting
Wednesday April 8 at 4:00pm
Video conference on zoom

1. Conference/zoom information
   Julie Rosenbach is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

   Topic: Fertilizer Working Group
   Time: Apr 8, 2020 04:00 PM

   Join Zoom Meeting
   https://zoom.us/j/445027783

   Meeting ID: 445 027 783

   Dial in
   (929) 205-6099

2. Agenda
   1) Finalize allowed uses section
   2) Review definitions

3. Next meetings
   May 6: Discuss best practices to promote through outreach & education
   June: Discuss exemptions and/or waivers; retail sales; enforcement; effective date; oversight body; reporting requirements
   July: Discuss report to City Council
   August: Council workshop introducing draft ordinance
NOTES

Present: Cathy, Julie, Jesse, Linden, Rick, Andrew, Rachel, Fred (notes)

Prelim. Qs

- Linden: will we have section in ordinance for non-turf areas (per Cathy Chapman)
  - JR: primary focus on turf to prevent runoff into waterways but we can consider others as well
  - Linden: consider 75’ setback and additional section for ornamentals and veggies
  - FD: are we envisioning establishing restrictions for these additional plant types
  - CR: maybe start small with this and amend later
  - RB: we’re making it too complicated – should include gardens – no need for synthetics only organics

Rachel’s questions / comments in ordinance

1. Whereas: synthetic fertilizer does not boost soil health; soil is the source for N
   - Only a little organic N is needed
   - Synthetic fertilizer harms soil health
   - Need to acknowledge that synthetic ferts don’t build soil health but they do have a place in certain circumstances
   - Prefer use of org over synth
   - Organic compost can carry N
   - Important to encourage organic matter in the soil

2. Whereas: P occurs naturally in turf; synthetic fert can lead to excess P
   - Need to have P for new plants through roots
   - Important to remember that N can have considerable impacts in coastal / marine settings
   - Considerable discussion on whether to preference organic over synthetic
   - Need to focus on over-application of ferts
   - Other ingredients in ferts that aren’t N

3. Whereas...impaired streams – include as bullet point instead

Allowed uses were unanimously approved
Q about including a 10-25’ buffer next to a forest (are there any “protected areas” in SoPo?)
– Jesse will look into finding scientific reference; dripline is also important consideration
(ref to JR’s revisions in ordinance)

DEFINITIONS REVIEW
Algal blooms: maybe simplify / streamline the narrative a bit – Cathy will do it....

Compost: def needs some work; it needs to be used in moderation; not considered fertilizer
for the purposes of this ordinance – Jesse will work on it with Mark Hutchinson UMaine

Dripline of (conserved) forest – Andrew will do it (check with Jeff Tarling)

Refine environmentally sensitive area def and keep separate from water resources and
wetlands – FD will do

Discussion about multiple defs for ferts: - JO will do
  • Need to also mention that there are some fast-release orgs on the market
  • Don’t want to get stuck in benefits and drawbacks – just the facts

May 6: review defs and then get into E&O and BMPs

Think about categories of E&O