SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE

JULIE A. ROSENBACK
Sustainability Director

PEST MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PMAC)
AGENDA - Monday, December 2, 2019
5-6:30PM – South Portland Community Center Conference Room

1. Review, revise and/or approve 11/4/19 meeting notes (ATTACHMENT)

2. Pesticide Ordinance Questionnaire Distribution Status (Fred/Jesse)
   • Announcements with URL & QR Code to resident questionnaire in main library, Community Center, and in 11/22/19 newsletter (ATTACHMENT)
   • Announcement with URL & QR Code links to contractor questionnaire at SiteOne and in MELNA newsletter (ATTACHMENT)

   • Discussion on expectations for “perfect” lawn
   • How to deal with white grub complex and weeds in cracks & crevices
   • Key cultural practices
   • Budget concerns for staffing and equipment
   • Explore opportunities to share education & outreach resources
   • Discussion on what constitutes “safe” playing surface for performance turf

4. Fertilizer Ordinance Update (Jesse/Andrew/Fred)

5. Upcoming Events / Other Items of Potential Interest
   • 1/27/20: CBEP Casco Bay Coastal Academy nutrient panel
   • 3/26/20: Maine Flower Show pesticide ordinance panel discussion @ 12:30
   • 4/7/20: CCSWCD Trout Brook YardScaping Workshop including discussion on pesticide & fertilizer ordinances
   • 5/7/20: Piper Shores Yerxa Park / pesticide ordinance presentation

6. Considerations for reducing meeting frequency from monthly to every other month (and back to monthly if/as needed)

7. PMAC membership status / thanks

8. USGS NESQA Project

9. Other agenda items / discussion topics?

10. Adjourn

NEXT MEETING: 1/6/20 OR 2/3/20 FROM 5-6:30 PM?
SOUTH PORTLAND PEST MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES
11/4/19 (5-6:30 PM) – COMMUNITY CENTER

ATTENDEES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residents / Taxpayers</th>
<th>MBPC-Licensed Professionals</th>
<th>Agronomist</th>
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<tr>
<td>Andrew Capellutti</td>
<td>Justin Nichols</td>
<td>Jesse O’Brien</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cathy Chapman</td>
<td>Todd Robbins (absent)</td>
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<td>Ann Morrill (Chair)</td>
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<td>City Staff</td>
<td>Guests</td>
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<td>Fred Dillon (notes)</td>
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1. Review, revise and/or approve 10/7/19 meeting notes (ATTACHMENT)

   Notes OK as written

2. Pesticide Ordinance Questionnaire Distribution Status (Ann & Cathy)
   • May need to consider including placard since some question about whether staff intended to solicit involvement
     o Very few had been filled out; about 5 at library
     o Can it be placed online? Also do a QR code
     o Put together announcement to use as placard – FD will send to PMAC for feedback
   • Check with Julie about providing links to both from new FB page

3. NOFA Training Recap (Jesse & Justin)
   • JN: only 3 attendees were “professionals”; hard for pros to attend and it was pretty expensive; site prep, interacting with clients, etc.
     o Deb Perkins talked about wildlife plans
     o Heather McCargo (sp?) spoke about native seed gathering / planting
     o Mike Nadeau spoke about wildflower meadows instead of lawns
   • JO: had about 25 people – it’s a 4 day class with test to certify – big commitment
     o 1 person from CT; 1 from Augusta; remainder were municipal staffers
     o Jesse spoke about grass and soils
     o Chip spoke about many of the same things Jesse covered
     o Jeremy Pelletier (CT NOFA) asked Jesse to go on speaking circuit
     o NOP list in our ordinance is not for ornamentals but for agriculture – it’s more stringent than it may need to be
     o MELNA wants to have a recertification course that allows for NOFA credits
     o Lots of folks we need to reach aren’t MELNA or NOFA members
       ▪ Consider targeting these folks – events and other outreach methods
PMAC’s role to encourage cultural practices – does it fall within the E&O purview?
  - It is in our purview
  - How does it relate to the waiver process? For example, what happens if SMCC or Wainwright has grub issue?
  - It’s really critical to determine need for grub treatment based on shifting window – depending on particular season, it could be a span of time (ref. to Clay Kirby – Umaine Extension Entomologist)
  - Question about the extent to which it’s the responsibility of the owner / property manager to determine need for synthetic intervention
  - Allow for more flexibility in how PMAC grants waivers based on what we learned from the process with Wainwright & SMCC
  - Have a list of experts for response protocols – will depend on specific pest issue
  - Need to improve GHSP on what to do about pests...

UNH’s organic turf handout is consistent with what Chip says – need targeted type of pesticide and rescue treatment

Discussion about Falmouth’s approach with requiring landscapers to register and report how much / what type of pesticides are being applied

4. Considerations for Possible Improvements to Grow Healthy South Portland website
  - Biggest issue is that we don’t have much traffic and have to figure out how to drive folks to the site
  - Suggestion to rely on existing info…just create links
  - Stick with Coop Ext and UMaine
  - Also consider MOFGA, which may be moving into lawn / turf space
  - Golf course superintendents are quite aware of the growing organic trends – “poverty turf” - grass that can grow with no ferts / pests

5. Yerxa Park project status
  - Fabric installation may need to wait until next year – timing will be important; limited time for the fall so first thing in the spring before knotweed growth takes off
  - Interpretive sign to follow shortly thereafter – **FD will bring draft sign next time**

6. Fertilizer Ordinance Update
  - Synthetic ban back on table (for residential – NOT performance turf)
    - Andrew’s suggestion of landscape design features that could be used in lieu of synthetics; avoid use in drainage swales
    - Consider role of E&O to promote other types of veg such as clover
  - Concerns related to compost use in lieu of fertilizers
  - Next Fertilizer Working Group meeting 11/13/19; see [FWG webpage](#) FMI
• Questions / comments / discussion
  o Keeping roof water out of area that’s been fertilized – rain barrels
  o Lots of landscape design options to slow water down – ref to Cathy Neal’s Landscaping at the Water’s Edge (also refer to South Portland’s Stormwater Manual, Maine DEP’s Stormwater BMP Manual and EPA’s Urban Runoff: Low Impact Development)

7. Upcoming Events / Other Items of Potential Interest
• 2019 Maine Stormwater Conference: Holiday Inn by the Bay on 12/2/19 & 12/3/19
  o Lots of interesting presentations (including “From Bees & Bays to Goats”)
  o PMAC members can get in for free if they’ll just be attending “Extrordinance” track at 3PM on Mon. 12/2
• 4/7/20: CCSWCD Trout Brook YardScaping Workshop including discussion on pesticide & fertilizer ordinances
  o Importance of notifying the neighbors to inform them of what they can do to reduce their impacts on Trout Brook; importance of outreach think about strategies
• 2020 Maine Flower Show (3/26-3/29/20)?
• 5/7/20: request to speak about ordinance at Piper Shores
• Others?
  o Consider presenting to colleagues that aren’t MELNA members – Don Sproul Ex. Dir. of MELNA will help; request customer list from O’Donals, SiteOne, Allen Sterling & Lothrop, etc.
  o “Horticultural Horrors: What Happens When You Treat Your Soil Like Dirt”

8. Other agenda items / discussion topics
• Others?
  o Emerald Ash Borers: OMRI recognizes “Beetle be Gone” and NOT “Grub be Gone”; don’t need a waiver to treat but would most likely be done by professional – tree injections

9. Adjourn

NEXT MEETING ON MONDAY DECEMBER 2, 2019 or JANUARY 6, 2020 5-6:30 PM
Questionnaire on Pesticide Ordinance for Private Properties

The City of South Portland’s Pesticides Use Ordinance went into effect for all private properties in May of 2018. To help us learn more about how the implementation of the ordinance is going, please take a few moments to complete this brief questionnaire. The responses will be compiled into a summary report to help inform our ongoing efforts to implement the ordinance. To complete an online questionnaire please visit the link below or scan the QR code:

bit.ly/SoPo_Pesticide_Questionnaire

For more information, please visit the Grow Healthy South Portland website:

bit.ly/Grow_Healthy_SoPo

Please return completed paper questionnaire to:
Sustainability Office, 25 Cottage Rd, 04106
Questionnaire for Professional Landscapers

The Cities of South Portland & Portland now have Pesticide Ordinances that apply to all private properties. To help us learn more about how the implementation of the ordinances is going, please take a few moments to complete this brief questionnaire. The responses will be compiled into a summary report to help inform our ongoing efforts to implement the ordinances. To complete an online questionnaire please visit the link below or scan the QR code:

bit.ly/Pest_Ord_Contractor_Questionnaire

For more information, please visit South Portland’s & Portland’s websites:


Please return completed paper questionnaires to:
Sustainability Office, 25 Cottage Rd, 04106
MUNICIPAL PESTICIDE ROUNDTABLE
Tuesday, November 26, 2019 | 9:00 – 11:00 am | Scarborough Town Hall, Council Chambers

AGENDA

Goal: Increase pest management technology transfer between municipalities.

Ground Rules:
1. Facilitator guides discussion and ensures all have an opportunity to contribute.
2. Speak and listen with respect.
3. Raise hand to participate; do not interrupt.

9:00 Welcome & introductions
  – Municipality representing
  – Role within municipality (staff, committee member, etc.)

9:15 Overview of individual municipal organic pest management policies / ordinances
  – Scope (who it applies to, etc.)
  – Effective date
  – Exemptions

9:30 Facilitated discussion:
  Parks vs. playing fields
 Dealing with common turf pests
  – Grubs
  – Crab grass
  Cultural practices
  – What’s worked?
  – What hasn’t?
  Products
  – What’s been tried and worked?
  – What’s been tried and didn’t work?
  – What’s being considered?
New or innovative tools or approaches
  – Weed steamer
  – Others?
  Invasives management: approaches that align with policies / ordinances

10:45 Wrap up

11:00 Adjourn