AGENDA

Fertilizer Ordinance Meeting

Wednesday July 8 at 4:00pm
Video conference on zoom

1. Conference/zoom information

Join Zoom Meeting
https://zoom.us/j/94345611965
Dial by phone: (929) 205-6099
Meeting ID: 943 4561 1965

Present: Julie, Jesse, Cathy, Rachel, Linden, Fred

Council workshop 9/15 to discuss fert ord (2 weeks later to discuss possible amendments to pesticides ordinance); would be good to have FWG members participate but we’ll be late on the agenda

2. Agenda

1) Discuss exemptions and/or waivers; retail sales; enforcement; effective date; oversight body; reporting requirements

- JR: don’t think we need to add anything for exemptions / waivers
- CR: doesn’t think it’s needed either
- RB: make sure to clarify under best practices and maybe consider requiring waiver to EVER use synthetic ferts
- LT: waivers not needed; we’ve developed very specific language that obviate need for exemptions / waivers
- Do we need to do any reporting? Ref to reporting for pesticide use ordinance and how Portland parses it out. Is it relevant for fertilizers?
  - State currently doesn’t require it.
  - Falmouth requires reporting for total volume (NPK); measuring total amount of pounds of product NOT actual amounts; organic products require 3-4 x the amount as compared to synthetics
  - Very difficult to measure; maybe do it through tracking sales? Very difficult to get data and should do it sooner rather than later
SUSTAINABILITY
OFFICE

JULIE A. ROSENBACK
Sustainability Director

- Too much effort for too little benefit
- Education at point of sales is most important

- Agreement that PMAC should be oversight body – would like to call it “OLAC” (Organic Landcare Advisory Committee)
  - Meeting with Manager and Counsel on where the ordinance should exist

- Violations/enforcement: make it consistent with pesticide use ordinance (which will need to amended to allow for enforcement)
  - DACF has enforcement authority for fertilizers but based on complaints only
  - DEP had different enforcement approach where they can just show up
  - Complaint-driven vs proactive? Former…but who will do it? Sustainability Director or CEO? Former provides support to the latter.
  - Incorporate pesticide ordinance enforcement language into fertilizer ordinance
  - Should we work with violator initially to provide compliance support?

- Sales: limit the times of year that ferts can be sold?
  - Interesting idea to institute shut down period?
  - Most important thing with sales is E&O
  - Burdensome for retailers to remove and store products
  - Amount of organic products compared to synthetics is 2-3 times higher
  - Do not limit sales

- Effective date: should we do a phased approach or all-at-once?
  - Adoption date will probably be later this fall in which case it will take effect in time for 2021 growing season

2) Review comments if any on definitions

- Tree Critical Root Zone: where does it apply? Should it include only City property or should it also include State and nonprofits (e.g., SPLT)
  - Also apply to private properties?
  - Include only in E&O and BMP sections?
  - Importance of trees can’t be overstated (ref to the book the Overstory); keystones to providing ecological services
  - Check with Andrew on developing educational materials

- Turf definition modified per Jesse’s suggestions – though he might like to see some additional refinements FWG is OK with it

3) Discuss & finalize core messages to include in best practices to promote through outreach & education

- Ref to Julie’s document – which doesn’t need to be fully developed / finished now
• Consider having PMAC do it
• Discussion about integrating this material into GHSP website
• Need to develop partnership with Coop Ext: really need someone to do field visits – current capacity is limited
  o We should be able to tap into other orgs with specific expertise – including Coop Ext and CCSWCD, etc.

4) Develop agenda for next (final?) meeting
   • Final review and finish any remaining loose ends

3. Next meetings

   Aug. 5 at 4PM
   • Review final draft ordinance – review electronically ahead of time; Julie will send final version to FWG members
   • Discuss report to City Council: Julie and Fred will (hopefully) get it done in time for workshop

   Sept. 15
   Council workshop introducing draft ordinance