1. Colleen Teerling, Maine Forest Service Entomologist, on invasive forest insect pests

2. Review/amend/approve 4/12/21 PMAC meeting notes (ATTACHMENT)

3. Review/revise/edit 2020 PMAC Report to Council (ATTACHMENT)

4. Update on status of Fertilizer Education & Outreach Plan

5. Quick review of FOAA requirements and City’s new policies for committees

6. Next month: Karen Coluzzi, State Pest Survey Coordinator, will be presenting on emerging forest insect pests

7. Adjourn

NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING: 6/7/21 from 5-6:30 PM

ZOOM MEETING LINK

https://zoom.us/j/95478210688?pwd=OVQwTlYwVDhyOVpEanhjcmdYazlOdz09

Meeting ID: 954 7821 0688
Passcode: 987913
SOUTH PORTLAND PEST MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING NOTES
4/5 & 4/12/21 (5-6:30 PM) – ZOOM MEETING

ATTENDEES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residents / Taxpayers</th>
<th>MBPC-Licensed / NOFA-Certified Professionals</th>
<th>Agronomist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Capelluti</td>
<td>Addie Smith-Reiman</td>
<td>Jesse O’Brien (Chair)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex Redfield (absent)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cathy Chapman (absent)</td>
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City Staff                      | Guests                                      |                   |

Fred Dillon (notes)             |                                             |                   |

1. Review/amend/approve 3/1/21 PMAC meeting notes
   • Add Dave Palm is the other instructor
   • Addy is ED for Portland Society of Architecture
   • Approved as amended

2. Additional agenda items / discussion topics?
   • What’s the status of the tree ordinance
     o SPCC will be talking with Milan about it
     o Jesse was on Zoom call with Milan to discuss with contractors – ref to Doug Tallamy’s Bringing Nature Home (also see Homegrown National Park)
   • Grub complaints – Ocean House Place
     o Important to document how often it happens
     o Suggest pilot study to try alternative products; Fred will check with Joe Fourre of Its Green (although he didn’t have any success with an organic only approach in Scarborough)
     o Perhaps City could put some funding towards grub alternative pilot project? (check also with Rick Perruzzi for Wainwright plot)
     o Grubs can come to any lawn regardless of condition and identifying them is really critical since there are about 7 different types
     o Suggestion to do a “grub spotting” geocaching to help identify extent of problem
     o The simple fact of having a lawn will be an attractant for grubs regardless of its condition

INTERNET OUTAGE AT APPROX. 5:25PM ON 4/5/21 – MEETING HAD TO BE RESCHEDULED
NOTES BELOW FROM RESCHEDULED MEETING ON 4/12/21

• Interest in presentation on current tree pests on 5/3/21 (could be followed by emerging tree pests at future LMAC meeting)
Colleen Teerling, Maine Forest Service Entomologist and Karen Coluzzi, State Pest Survey Coordinator

- Invite folks from surrounding communities: Portland, Scarborough, Falmouth, Yarmouth, SPCC, SPLT, etc.

3. Replacement suggestions for Todd Robbins’ position
   - Noah Tucker (Bartlett Tree) or Jon Hanisko of Lucas – Jesse and Fred will follow up
     - Would also need to be commercial applicator
     - Have previously asked both Noah and Jon and both would prefer to serve on Portland given they do more work there
   - Others?
     - Will check with another Noah Gleason-Hart who works for MOFGA

4. Implementation status of Fertilizer Ordinance Education & Outreach Plan (share on-screen)
   - Article series: 1st one on ordinance basics just published in Sentry and 2nd one on importance of soil done and ready for publication next week (thanks Alex!).
   - Staff currently working with web designer and copy editor on GHSP website update; will be ready for LMAC review / feedback at next month’s meeting.
     - Make sure to include social media component – FB, YouTube, Instagram,
     - Lots of potential – keep them “short and sweet”
     - Question about whether SoPo has communications social media person
     - We need more social media presence
     - Reach out to other communities on sharing resources
   - Brainstorming on outreach to retailers (review documents on-screen).
     - Retailers need more training on alternative products since the pesticides ordinance outreach didn’t seem to work very well (organic products were pushed to the back of the store)
     - Question about how to measure success – would be useful to develop key metrics
       - Determine how much detail to provide and the increments we want to use
       - Determine whether a macro or micro approach is preferable (maybe both, though micro makes it simpler)
       - Question about StonyField Farm – think it’s not making much progress – need more funding
         - Take signs down until we’re able to do something
         - It’s not very good advertising for organic turf
     - Determine how to measure behavioral shifts
     - Provide LMAC email address to respond to and track questions
     - Determine if there’s a way to track PoS retail data
     - Concept of healthy competition between neighbors – who can have most sustainable yard
Investigate whether there are any apps that could help with data collection, e.g., map app for sustainable behavior

- Reference to Doug McKenzie Mohr / Community Based Social Marketing as potential info resource
  - Pretty significant effort – not a simple matter of just handing out brochures – can be painstaking
  - Try to use as many existing resource as possible to not reinvent wheel

5. Update on Fertilizer Ordinance soil quality provisions
   - Need to amend ordinance to explicitly include administrative process for inspections, payment and consequences for non-compliance (fines and withholding of occupancy certificate).
   - Council agendas backed up until 9/7/21 so we’ll inform developers that soil quality provisions will become effective later this year following ordinance amendments.
     - Determine if there’s anything we can do in the interim? Check with Julie/Milan...
     - Notify developers and contractors...Planning may already be doing this
     - Partner with ASLA and/or E2 Tech – lunch and learn

6. 2020 PMAC report status: will be ready for review for next meeting (was due by 3/31/21)
   - Measuring the amount of pesticides is more difficult than it seems; MBPC recently starting to collect data electronically but not by municipality
   - Data isn’t normalized and doesn’t address toxicity
   - Really hard to compare usage given different units and thoroughness of reporting
   - Is there any way to partner with someone like The Nature Conservancy to help with a grant to do something similar to what VT is doing (assuming what they’ve done is comparable)
   - Portland’s applicators reports have increased by about 20% from last year – which doesn’t necessarily represent an increase in pesticides but just in reporting

   - Question about whether a bare spot left by a tree in the ROW will they use compost for re-seeding (question by Alex)

7. Legislative proposals – lots related to pesticides, fertilizers, soil quality, etc. (on-screen)
   - An Act Regarding the Application of Certain Pesticides for Nonagricultural Use
   - An Act To Establish the Maine Healthy Soils Program
   - An Act To Require Schools To Submit Pest Management Activity Logs
   - An Act To Protect Children from Exposure to Toxic Chemicals
   - Directing the Board of Pesticides Control To Prohibit the Use of Certain Neonicotinoids
   - An Act To Amend the Membership Requirements of the Board of Pesticides Control

Jesse’s summary:
- Neonic bill – passed out of committee will prohibit use by homeowners; only commercial applicators can use
- Ban use of older chemical (not sure of name) for only a couple insects; expected to pass
- School grounds bill passed out of committee
- Ban all pesticides other than ag uses; has yet to be heard
- Makeup of BPC
- MOFGA bill – soils bill – DACF placeholder for federal funding to Coop Ext.; ag/horticultural orientation

8. Adjourn

NEXT REMOTE MEETING: 5/3/21 from 5-6:30 PM
- Presentation from Karen Coluzzi on emerging tree pest threats or someone from MFS on current tree pest problems
TO: South Portland City Council

DATE: April 30, 2021

SUBJECT: 2020 Annual Summary Report - DRAFT

OVERVIEW

The pesticide use provisions in the City’s ordinance direct the Pest Management Advisory Committee (PMAC)¹ to provide the Council with annual reports in March of each year summarizing the committee’s activities for the previous year. The PMAC’s primary duties as specified in the ordinance include:

1. Working with the Sustainability Director on outreach & education to encourage broad community support.
2. Reviewing & issuing decisions on waiver applications.
3. Reviewing annual data (e.g., annual applicator’s reports).
4. Seeking expert advice from professionals and practitioners in organic land care practices.
5. Advising the Council & Sustainability Director on problems encountered or amendments needed to successfully implement pesticide ordinance.

1. EDUCATION & OUTREACH

The numerous difficulties and disruptions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic limited efforts by the PMAC and City staff to conduct public education & outreach (E&O). At least two events had to be cancelled though there were some notable activities that promoted increased public awareness about sustainable landcare practices, including:

- Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District (CCSWCD) delivered YardScaping² workshops to South Portland residents in early April and mid-August that incorporated elements of the City’s pesticide ordinance provisions.
- PMAC members (Chair & staff) participated in two Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Council meetings and provided updates about City’s ordinance implementation.
- Staff worked with the PMAC to develop and place interpretive signs for the Yerxa Park knotweed suppression demonstration project.
- Others?

¹ Amendments to Chapter 32 by the Council in November 2020 added provisions for fertilizer management and renamed the Pest Management Advisory Committee (PMAC) the Landcare Management Advisory Committee (LMAC). These provisions became effective on 12/7/20.
² YardScaping promotes low-maintenance practices that minimize the use of landcare products; CCSWCD modified their workshop to include information specific to the City’s pesticide ordinance.
The development of an E&O plan for fertilizer use began shortly after the enactment of the new Landcare Management Ordinance in November 2020. While the plan will focus primarily on fertilizers, the types of practices recommended for building healthy soils will apply to pesticides as well. Additionally, the Grow Healthy South Portland website will be updated to ensure that the recommendations for pesticide and fertilizer use are consistent and mutually supportive.

2. WAIVER APPLICATIONS
The pesticide ordinance allows waivers for the use of synthetic pesticides in very limited circumstances and requires that all of the following criteria must be met to justify a waiver:

- A situation exists that threatens the public health and safety and/or where invasive species pose a threat to the environment;
- The applicant has carefully evaluated all alternative methods and materials;
- The applicant will, to the greatest extent practical, minimize the impact of the application on abutting properties; and
- The grant of the waiver will not be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare.

Summaries for each of the waiver applications submitted for consideration by the PMAC’s Waiver Review Committee are provided below.

**Wainwright Field – Crabgrass**
Parks Department staff submitted this waiver request well in advance of the 2020 growing season. Despite the implementation of organic turf management practices for the previous three years, approximately 50% of the playing surfaces had been overtaken by crabgrass. To reduce the likelihood of athletic injuries from inconsistent or uneven playing surfaces and potentially adverse impacts to abutting properties, they proposed a rescue treatment with the synthetic pesticide Dimension (Dithiopyr) in strict accordance with use instructions.

The Waiver Committee approved the request because all of the four required criteria were met and there were no effective non-synthetic alternatives available. Additionally, other possible options were exceedingly expensive or impractical (e.g., re-sodding damaged areas, hand weeding, etc.). The committee’s response also included recommendations to amend the ordinance for more flexibility in periodically using synthetic products to manage crabgrass without a waiver. Alternately, they suggested significantly increasing the field maintenance budget to allow for routine re-sodding to address turf damage by crabgrass.

**Crestview Drive – Grub Control**
The resident’s landcare provider submitted a waiver to use the synthetic pesticide Acelepryn for grub control. The homeowner had hired a different landcare provider in 2019 to employ an organic grub control treatment that proved to be ineffective. Despite significant and extensive damage to the resident’s lawn, the Waiver Committee was unable to approve the request due to the very restrictive waiver provisions – particularly the requirement for a “threat to public health
and safety”. While most landcare providers contend there are currently no organic alternatives for effective grub control, the ordinance makes it virtually impossible for any residential property to qualify for a waiver in these circumstances.

**Vista Drive – Grub Control**
A resident of Vista Drive submitted an incomplete waiver application for lawn damage due to grubs. Staff followed up with a request for more information but the resident did not respond. Consequently, the Waiver Committee took no action on the waiver request.

**Ocean House Place Condos – Grub Control**
After conferring with City staff about the waiver review process for grub control using synthetic pesticides, the condo association president submitted an application that clearly documented extensive turf damage from animals foraging for grubs. The application did not specify which pesticide was being proposed nor which alternative methods had been evaluated. Consequently, the waiver request was denied. Even if this information had been provided, the committee would still have denied the waiver due to the requirement for a threat to public health and safety. The president contacted City staff again later in the year (11/17/20) to complain about how the pesticide ordinance created the unintended consequence of depressing property values due to extensive lawn damage from grubs.

**Breakwater Drive**
A landcare provider submitted a waiver request on behalf of the Breakwater Condo Association for a cut-stem application of the synthetic pesticide Cheetah Pro (glufosinate ammonium) to an area infested with Japanese Knotweed. While the applicant indicated that alternative methods had been attempted previously without success, the committee denied the waiver with the recommendation that these methods be used for a longer duration. Subsequently, the applicant appealed the waiver and the City Manager directed the PMAC to reconsider the request. The applicant also provided additional information identifying the location of the proposed pesticide use in relation to nearby Casco Bay and details about why the recommended alternate methods would be problematic for this location. The committee conditionally approved the waiver to allow for the 1-time use of the least toxic synthetic pesticide available.

### 3. ANNUAL DATA REVIEW

Twenty licensed pesticide applicators provided annual reports for 2020, primarily copied directly from the reports submitted to the Maine Board of Pesticides Control (MBPC) – as allowed by the City’s pesticide ordinance provisions. The information included:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicator’s License Number</th>
<th>Target Site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicator’s Name</td>
<td>Pesticide Brand Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company Name</td>
<td>EPA Registration Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company Email</td>
<td>Total Pounds Undiluted Formulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company Address</td>
<td>Total Gallons Undiluted Formulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company Telephone Number</td>
<td>Total Area Treated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Unfortunately, the way that applicators provide this information is not standardized and therefore provides little or no basis for evaluation in terms of pesticide volumes and the relative areas to which they were applied. It was also somewhat difficult to determine whether all of the applications fully complied with the ordinance’s exemption requirements (i.e., to confirm that no pesticides were used inappropriately). The MBPC is currently developing an online reporting system that will hopefully address some of these shortcomings.

The data summary does allow for some comparative analysis in terms of pesticide types, land ownership and land uses. The vast majority of pesticides applied were insecticides followed by fungicides and herbicides. It should be noted that some applicators used organic pesticides, though limited staff capacity didn’t allow for an analysis of this metric. Disinfectants were also reported though it’s unlikely any of these were actually pesticides as defined by the ordinance. Some applicators neglected to list the types of pesticides used.

Most of reported sites were privately owned with the public sites consisting primarily of athletic fields and the municipal golf course. Finally, buildings represented the largest land use type followed by applications to golf courses and ornamental landscape features. Once again, some applicators neglected to provide information about the land use types to which pesticides were applied.

4. SEEKING EXPERT ADVICE

Even though the process of developing the provisions for the fertilizer ordinance was separate from the implementation of the pesticide ordinance, there was membership and subject area overlap between these two efforts. Four PMAC members and the City’s Stormwater Program Coordinator also served on the Fertilizer Working Group, which involved consultation with numerous landcare management experts on practices to

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3 Pesticides are defined as any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling or mitigating any pest; any substance or mixture of substances intended for use as a plant regulator, defoliant or desiccant...Herbicides, fungicides, insecticides and rodenticides are considered pesticides.

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build healthy soils and reduce the need for fertilizer – and by extension, pesticide – use. Additionally, all members of the Pest Management Advisory Committee are “experts” in their own right with extensive experience in various aspects of landcare management and water resource protection.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

LMAC recommendations here...