PEST MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PMAC)
AGENDA - Monday, October 5, 2020
5-6:30PM – remote/virtual meeting via Zoom (see below for details)

1. Review/amend/approve 8/3/20 meeting notes (ATTACHMENT)

2. PMAC membership changes
   • Thanks to Linden Thigpen for her valuable contributions to the PMAC
   • Welcome Alex Redfield as new citizen representative

3. Update on current status of insect/pest outbreaks in South Portland

4. Current status of proposed pesticide ordinance changes for consideration by Council

5. Planning for transition from PMAC to LMAC
   • Tentative timeline / process for approving and implementing Fertilizer Ordinance
   • Begin thinking about additional resources for GHSP website
   • Begin thinking about additional strategies for public outreach & education

6. Other agenda items / discussion topics?

7. Adjourn

NEXT REMOTE MEETING: 11/2/20 from 5-6:30 PM
ZOOM MEETING LINK

https://zoom.us/j/98570129055?pwd=MGN3d3BtSVhjRm9NK2lHMlc5TDRiZz09

Meeting ID: 985 7012 9055  
Passcode: 687875  
Dial by your location  
  +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)  
  +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)  
  +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)  
  +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)  
  +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)  
  +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
SOUTH PORTLAND PEST MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DRAFT MEETING NOTES
8/3/20 (5-6:30 PM) – ZOOM MEETING

ATTENDEES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residents / Taxpayers</th>
<th>MBPC-Licensed Professionals</th>
<th>Agronomist</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Capelluti</td>
<td>Justin Nichols</td>
<td>Jesse O’Brien (Chair)</td>
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<td>Cathy Chapman</td>
<td>Todd Robbins</td>
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<td>Linden Thigpen</td>
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<th>City Staff</th>
<th>Guests</th>
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<td>Fred Dillon (notes)</td>
<td>None</td>
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UPDATES

- Jesse: industry is staying very busy
- Linden’s reference to Portland’s tree ordinance – letter from Portland resident that’s very critical of ordinance – 10 concerns that she felt needed to be addressed
  - SPCC met with Karl Coughlin about ordinance through zoning; Karl is writing an ordinance – check with Karl
  - PPH article about “heritage trees” – oak, maple, pine or spruce

1. Review / amend / approve 7/6/20 meeting notes (ATTACHMENT)
   - Change from Zoom meeting to Bug Light

2. Additional discussion on possible ordinance changes for Sept Council workshop
   - Pesticide ordinance changes will be considered with fertilizer ordinance
   - Pesticide ordinance changes:
     - Some relief for homeowners with grubs
       - Tough one because it’s preemptive – don’t want Dylox
       - Only viable option – annual application of Acelpyrine (chlorantraniliprole)
       - Different from performance turf because it’s a public resource
       - Reference to grub threshold and damage done by foraging critters
       - Doesn’t happen every year – only once in a while
       - People get upset about lawn damage
       - Potential for big backslide – undermines principles of ordinance
       - Advocate for organic approach – maybe consider establishing a fund if there’s enough public pressure for relief (though pretty unlikely)
         - Animals can actually help with more minor grub problems if followed up with raking and reseeding
         - If folks don’t get relief they’re just going to apply synthetics themselves – hard to quantify
• Some relief for homeowners – maybe consider putting together a pamphlet – allow for the use of the synthetics if it’s a chronic problem for 2-3 consecutive years
• Resources on how to deal with white grubs – we’ve talked about it for a long time – FD will have SW Intern work on it
• Majority of grub damage occurs in weaker part of the lawns – indication of how / where to improve things
  o Enforcement – or lack thereof
    • Concerns with pitting neighbor against neighbor – better to take softer non-punitive approach
    • Have had very few waivers and complaints
    • People generally want to be organic
    • Anonymous hotline to report potential concerns – similar to Portland’s SeeClickFix (SoPo has online tools for reporting SW violations or public service requests)
    • Maybe consider escalating enforcement process
  o Preemptive applications to performance turf for white grub complex and annual grassy weeds
    • Chip’s suggested synthetic treatments are occasionally justified
    • Exemption or waiver?
      • Exemption preferred so PMAC doesn’t have to spend time on it – similar to golf
      • Maybe enough for PMAC to provide oversight – but need to define what this would be
      • Can do it organically if money is no object, e.g., sodding
  o Waiver committee composition: 2 vs 3 members? OK to continue with 2 for now
    • Committee has been in agreement – generally works OK and with only 2 members there’s no need for a publicly noticed meeting; also allows for quicker turnaround time
  o Appeals process not including manager: aggrieved folks can take us to court (per Corp Counsel)
    • Agree that it shouldn’t be for Manager to decide - scientific / site specific expertise needed; maybe Sustainability Director could be person to decide appeal
  o Allow licensed applicators to apply synthetics for invasive plants
    • Should be case by case and don’t want to open it up too much
    • Examples include bittersweet, knotweed, depends on situation
    • May not need to change ordinance – “invasive species that pose a threat to the environments” language may provide enough discretion / flexibility to Waiver Committee to decide
    • Ref to Nancy Olmstead / MNAP guidance
    • Consider adding economic and aesthetic impacts to ordinance
    • Site review criteria – have committee actually conduct site visits
Were net negative of invasive plants to ecosystem weren’t considered when the ordinance was initially drafted?
One clear allowance for newly introduced invasives should be justified
All invasive plants are a threat to the environment by definition
Maybe reference most current MNAP invasive plant list
There are many formerly invasive plants that are now naturalized – generally much less problematic than invasive woody vines and shrubs – esp. in disturbed forest ecosystems
This is a huge subject – we don’t have the capacity to reinvent the wheel; MNAP scientists are good resource
  • Concerns with changes to MNAP staff and lack of organic orientation
  • Potential conflict of interest and CoSP tends to be much more strict than state
  • Embrace the invasive – there are different views on impacts from invasives
  • SoPo is pretty built out and not many natural areas at risk like in more rural areas
How to deal with neighboring properties that don’t have same level of concern: can we set criteria to prevent spread from neighboring property?
  • Depends on type of invasive plant

3. Upcoming workshops / webinars
  • YardScaping: Healthy Lawn Care Webinars – (will include announcement in City’s next E-newsletter and post on GHSP website)
    o Wed 8/12 5:50-8PM - $15
    o Thur 8/20 5:50-8PM - $15
    o Tues 8/25 5:50-8PM - $15
  • Others?

4. Continue education & outreach efforts
  • More targeted work with retailers – “end cap” displays, flyers, brochures, etc. (ref to ordinance for specific types of info)
  • Consider including additional practices in anticipation of fertilizer ordinance (check with Julie)
  • Anything more for homeowners?
  • Anything more for land care professionals?
  • Improvements to GHSP website or Sustainability FB page?
  • Others?
    • Steal stuff from Portland’s website – Roger / TOH

5. Demonstration Project Status / Updates
  • Yerxa Park
• Bug Light Park – status? FD to check with Karl

6. Other agenda items / discussion topics
   • Portland got a StonyField grant too
   • MA has 2 bills – healthy soil bill and soils as integral part of development – nice to be in Maine legislature

7. Future agenda topics

8. Adjourn

NEXT MEETING: 9/14/20 from 5-6:30 PM