

SAANICH'S PESTICIDE BYLAW

Where Did It Come From?

2001

The town of Hudson Quebec establishes the right of municipalities to protect the general welfare of its residents and cites the Precautionary Principle: the duty to prevent harm, when it is within the power to do so, even when all the evidence is not in.

2004

British Columbia passes legislation allowing municipalities limited abilities to regulate the use of pesticides.

- A municipality may regulate, prohibit and impose requirements in relation to the application of pesticides (except exempted pesticides under the Pesticide Control Act Regulation) for the purpose of maintaining outdoor trees, shrubs, flowers, other ornamental plants and turf on a parcel or a part of a parcel used for residential purposes, or on land vested in the municipality
- A municipality may not exercise the authority under this regulation in relation to the application of pesticides in relation to human diseases, agriculture or forestry, on the residential areas of farms, to buildings or inside buildings, or on land used for transportation, public utilities or pipelines unless the public utility or pipeline is vested in the municipality.

2005

Capital Regional District provides municipalities with a Model Pesticide Bylaw to promote consistency between municipalities for residents.

2006

Saanich joins the CRD Pesticide Use Reduction Education Committee which produces factsheets, data, and research to support municipalities and residents.

2008

Saanich Council takes the pledge to go pesticide-free and directs staff to draft a regionally consistent Pesticide Bylaw and consultation.

City of Victoria and Town of Esquimalt pass Pesticide Bylaws.

2010

Saanich Council adopts the Pesticide Bylaw and hires a seasonal staff person to help residents identify pests and appropriate pesticide alternatives.

2018

Time for an update!



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Proposed Updates to the Bylaw

1. Add more options to the list of pesticides that residents can use without a Pesticide Permit or professional services.

Why? The Provincial Government has recently added these pesticides to their Integrated Pesticide Management Act. Unless we amend our Bylaw, Saanich residents will not be able to legally use them on their lawns and gardens.

Pesticide Name	Manufactured from...	Commonly used against...
<i>Bacillus sphaericus</i> (Bs)*	Bacteria	Mosquitos
<i>Bacillus subtilis</i> *	Bacteria	Plant fungus
<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> var. <i>israelensi</i> (Bti)*	Bacteria	Mosquitos
Boron compounds with up to 5% copper (DOMESTIC)	Boric acid	Insects, fungus
Citric acid*	Citrus peel, molasses	Dandelions
Copper (oxychloride and tribasic only)*	Copper and acid	Peach leaf curl
Corn cellulose	Corn cobs	Rodents
Fatty acids (COMMERCIAL)	Mostly plants and potash	Insects
FeHEDTA*	Iron and acid	Dandelions
Ferric sodium EDTA*	Synthesized	Snails, slugs
Formic acid	Synthesized and naturally occurring	Mites
Garlic*	Garlic	Aphids, mites
Insect semiochemicals including kairomones, attractants, and repellents	Plants	Flies, beetles
Kaolin	Clay	Insects, fungus
Lactic acid*	Carbohydrates	Mosquitos, fungus
Octenol	Synthesized	Mosquitos
Oxalic acid	Carbohydrates	Mites
<i>Phoma macrostoma</i> *	Fungus	Dandelions
Pyriproxyfen*	Synthesized	Fleas
<i>Sclerotinia minor</i> *	Fungus	Dandelions
Sodium chloride*	Salt	Insects
Spinosad *	Bacteria	Insects
Thymol	Thyme oil	Mites
Zinc strips	Zinc	Moss
Pesticides to be removed:		
Rotenone	Plants	Insects

* This product requires consultation with retailer. Products have restricted access.

2. Add a definition of 'serious economic loss'.

Why? This term is currently used in the Pesticide Bylaw as one of the possible criteria in obtaining a Pesticide Permit. The term is also used in the City of Victoria and District of Oak Bay Pesticide Bylaws. A definition would be useful in helping staff to consistently apply the term. In the past, it has not been used to justify any Pesticide Permits issued in Saanich.



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3. Add a definition of 'Manager of Environmental Services' in order to include a delegate.

Why? This term is currently used in the Pesticide Bylaw but is not defined. The Manager of Environmental Services has been delegated to issue Pesticide Permits. However, if she/he is absent from work, no one is delegated the authority to issue the permit on her/his behalf. Providing a definition to include delegates will ensure timely service for residents.

4. Clarify that an applicator of pesticides must be certified and follow the principles of Integrated Pest Management as stated in Appendix 1 of the bylaw.

Why? Currently in Appendix 1 (Pesticide Permit Application Form) of the Pesticide Bylaw, it states that the professional who applies pesticides must be properly certified to do so, and that they must follow the principles of Integrated Pesticide Management. This is to ensure that pesticides are only used properly and where all other practical methods have been exhausted.

5. Expand pesticide permit applications to be made for multiple properties or owners.

Why? Most Pesticide Permits are not issued for just one use or property, but for multiple properties and for the same pest, pesticide, and applicator. By stating this in the Pesticide Bylaw, residents will see that this option is open to them. A good example of this is the annual Pesticide Permit issued to the District of Saanich to use a type of herbicide on Knotweed plants and applied by one certified applicator on private land with the consent of owners.

6. Format Appendix 1 of the Pesticide Bylaw (Pesticide Permit Application)

Why? Saanich has updated all of its application forms to make them appear similar and have consistent formatting. This aids applicants by making the forms appear more familiar and easy to follow. Currently, the form in Appendix 1 does not appear like other Saanich application forms that are used. Replacing the old format with the new format would be less confusing for applicants and staff alike.

Do you have ideas for future updates?

Here are some possibilities identified so far if Council directs staff to undertake additional consultation in the future:

- Addressing pesticide use in the residential areas of institutional, commercial, and industrial properties;
- Increasing opportunities for residents to use glyphosate as per the updated IPMA;
- Allowing residents to apply domestic products if they obtain a Residential Applicator Certificate as per the updated IPMA;
- Addressing neonicotinoids, which are harmful to bees; and
- Other issues brought forward by residents.

