

Schlein, Paul B

From: MGMredfox@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, September 11, 2008 2:43 PM
To: Schlein, Paul B
Subject: Regarding meeting tomorrow

Dear Paul,

It is my understanding that the Board of Pesticides Control is meeting tomorrow in Fairfield. Unfortunately, I cannot attend but I would like to convey a few thoughts in regard to the pesticide regulations. If there was an important time to reflect on the jeopardy that we are putting ourselves, our wildlife and our environment through, it is now. Living on Penobscot Bay has made me extra sensitive to the effects pesticide applications have in regard to where we live. I live about 75 yds. from the Bay. I live in a private community. When our landscapers fertilize our lawns, many of which are older than ten years, it effects the runoff caused when it rains.. The culverts are treated, the lawns roll down to the water and the chemicals are added to the Bay. Many of these fertilizers are more potent than needed but have been approved by the government for use. Professional landscapers use them. The average homeowner uses them. We all are effected. The chemicals that don't run off are consumed by the birds and the few deer we have left where we live. Our children and pets track the granules that have not been dissolved into our homes. The pesticide spraying blows away from the targeted areas and threatens natural habitats which might include ponds and streams . The people, who are licensed to do this do not protect themselves enough against exposure. The government has the power to help change these scenarios without hurting anyone's rights or businesses.

* Help us care for our wildlife and the waters we all love by reducing the toxicity of fertilizers used in rural areas and areas near any body of water, from small ponds to rivers and the Bay.

* Set more strict guidelines for the use of these fertilizers and penalties for those who abuse them.

* Save money in local and state budgets by banning the use of weed control along roads and highways. We are creating more toxic run off by doing this and poisoning our wildlife.

* Encourage homeowners to use less fertilizer and the need to water their lawns will decrease.

* Encourage Landscapers to create Organic Alternative Programs

With the money saved, continue to help educate the public about correct use and available alternatives. Communities like Castine, Camden, Rockport have adopted Pesticide Policies in caring for town owned properties, including school fields and parks.They are refraining from the use of pesticides and using organic alternatives. Local Inns, businesses and residents are joining by pledging to do the same. The movement is strengthening...it can grow stronger with your help. Help us promote "Yardscaping".

Creating stricter regulations can only create a win/win situation. We will all live in a safer, healthier environment, our wildlife will be better protected and our water will be more pure. The way our life should be.

Thank you for your time. I have great respect for the work you have ahead of you. We all love Maine. Let's look out for it and preserve its beauty and our safety.

Sincerely, Marsha Mongell

Rockport

Psssst...Have you heard the news? [There's a new fashion blog, plus the latest fall trends and hair styles at StyleList.com.](#)