

## **Pesticide Reduction Strategies in Other Jurisdictions**

### **City of Toronto's Pesticide By-Law**

- On May 23, 2003, City Council passed By-Law 456-2003 restricting the use of pesticides. The by-law comes into effect in April 2004, and enforcement will commence in September 2005.
- The by-law allows for some limited use of pesticides for infestations and for some public health reasons.
- The first phase (April 2004 to August 2005) will focus on education and priority activities.
- In September 2005, the second phase will commence where \$255.00 fines for non-compliance may be issued by Public Health Inspectors to those who already received warning letters.
- This by-law is currently under appeal.

### **Other Municipalities with existing by-laws**

**Town of Caledon:** Caledon's Healthy Horticultural Landscapes By-law comes into effect May 1, 2004 and regulates the use of pesticides within a horticultural landscape. It does not include land used for agriculture, vacant lands, wetland and open space.

The by-law allows limited application such as spot treatment and application for pest infestations. Golf courses would be exempt from the provisions of the by-law provided they have successfully completed an environmental plan and hold an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) certificate.

**Town of Perth:** The Town of Perth by-law, enacted in April 2003, regulates the use of pesticides. The by-law includes exceptions in the instance of infestations or health concerns. It exempts agriculture, golf courses and utility corridors such as hydro and railroads.

**Town of Cobalt:** On November 1, 2002, the Town of Cobalt became the first municipality in Ontario to enact a by-law to regulate the use of pesticides.

**City of Thorold:** On July 8, 2003, the City of Thorold passed a bylaw to restrict the use of chemical pesticides and herbicides for cosmetic purposes which will be phased in over three years.

**St. Catharines:** The City of St. Catharines voted in favour of a restriction on the cosmetic use of pesticides on private property which comes into force on January 1, 2007. The three year delay is intended to provide an opportunity to implement an educational program.

## **Regional Municipalities**

### **Peel:**

- The Peel Region Health Department has been actively promoting reducing the non-essential use of pesticides, and has established a Pesticide Working Group with affected stakeholders.

### **Durham:**

- The Durham Region Health Department aims to reduce the non-essential use of chemical pesticides by increasing awareness about Integrated Plant Health Care methods.

### **Halton:**

- Halton Region Health Department developed a public education and awareness-raising program about the potential risks of pesticide use and alternatives that are available.
- The Region of Halton and area municipalities formed the 'Partners for Naturally Green'. The Partners for Naturally Green use education and other community based social marketing strategies to encourage residents to change their behaviour by:
  - (1) promoting pesticide reduction on regional website,
  - (2) organizing Point of Purchase and Pesticide Exchange Events,
  - (3) promoting their 'Pesticide Free' demonstration sites, and
  - (4) using various forms of media and incentives.

### **Waterloo:**

- Waterloo Region Health Department is developing a Pesticide By-Law. The framework is being co-ordinated through the Regional Pesticide Working Group chaired by a Regional Councillor.
- The Region of Waterloo has a 'Pesticide Reduction Strategy' for its own lands as well as an extensive public education campaign promoting pesticide reduction, Integrated Pesticide Management, healthy lawn practices, and organic gardening to the public.

### **City of Ottawa:**

- Council adopted the City of Ottawa Pesticide Reduction Strategy for private property on December 18, 2002.
- The strategy encourages voluntary reductions in the non-essential use of chemical pesticides with specific reduction targets to be met by the end of September 2005.
- The targets are 100% for institutions such as schools, hospitals, retirement homes and daycares; and 70% for residential properties and 65% for all remaining non-residential properties.