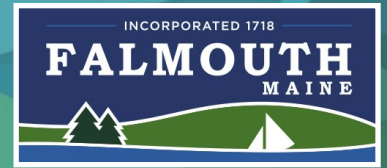


Proposed Pesticide/Fertilizer Ordinance

A Town of Falmouth Fact Sheet



To safeguard the health and welfare of Falmouth residents and to conserve and protect Falmouth's environment, water, and natural resources, Falmouth's Conservation Commission has proposed a Pesticide/Fertilizer Ordinance to regulate, and sometimes prohibit, the use and sale of outdoor pesticides and fertilizers in the community.

USE OF PESTICIDES

The proposed ordinance prohibits the use and sale of common non-organic weed, grub, and crabgrass control products.

What is prohibited?

All pesticides (organic and synthetic) are prohibited within 75 feet of a water body or watercourse (including ponds, rivers, streams, tidal areas, and coastal or freshwater wetlands).

The sale or use of any synthetic or non-synthetic pesticides listed as prohibited substances on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances (the "National List").*

Except for listed exemptions, pesticides are prohibited for all turf, landscape, and outdoor pest management on both public and private property, including:

- Lawns
- Vegetable & ornamental gardens
- Landscaped areas
- Patios & driveways

This includes most common non-organic weed, grub, and crabgrass control products.

*Find the "National List" at: www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/national-list-allowed-and-prohibited-substances

What if I have a weed or grub issue?

See the list of allowed organic pesticides below.

What if I have a pest problem?

See the list of exemptions for pests on the reverse.

BEFORE APPLICATION

1. Monitor the presence of pests or conditions conducive to outbreaks.
2. Identify the pest.
3. Determine if the pest population is a real hazard or just a nuisance. Consider safety, economic, or aesthetic concerns.
4. Apply according to manufacturer instructions

ALLOWED ORGANIC PESTICIDES

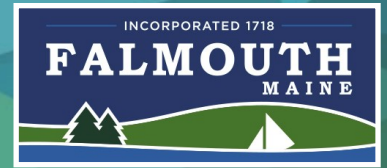
- Horticultural & insecticidal soaps
- Vinegar-based herbicides
- Essential oil-based pesticides
- Diatomaceous earth
- Biological-based pesticides (e.g. *Bacillus thuringiensis*)

Look for these organic labels on pesticides:



Proposed Pesticide/Fertilizer Ordinance

A Town of Falmouth Fact Sheet



USE OF FERTILIZERS

What is prohibited?

- All fertilizers (organic and synthetic) are prohibited within 75 feet of a water body or watercourse (including ponds, rivers, streams, tidal areas, and coastal or freshwater wetlands).
- Outdoor application of fertilizers between December 1 and March 31 is prohibited.
- Only non-water soluble fertilizer, compost, or composted manure may be applied between 75 and 250 feet of any water body or watercourse.
- Synthetic fertilizer containing phosphorus is prohibited for use on lawns and natural turf.
- Outdoor application of sludge and biosolids (i.e. sewage) is prohibited.

How do I keep my yard healthy and weed free?

- Collect & analyze soil samples to assess fertility and pH.
- Make amendments to soil as recommended by your soil analysis.
- Apply fertilizers after the spring green-up and before mid-September. Do not apply fertilizer in mid-summer or between December 1 and March 31.

PROFESSIONAL APPLICATORS

- Must be licensed through the State of Maine to apply pesticides. A license is not required for fertilizer application.
- Must use Best Management Practices for their respective industries.
- Must follow manufacturer instructions for applications.

Note: Professional applicator registration is still required. Reporting requirements for commercial lawn care specialists have been eliminated.

ORGANIC FERTILIZERS

Look for these organic labels on fertilizer:



All fertilizer bags have 3 numbers to tell you the primary nutrients.



Nitrogen (N) Phosphorous (P) Potassium (K)

EXEMPTIONS FOR PESTICIDE & FERTILIZER SALE & USE

- Commercial agriculture
- Commercial horticulture
- Pet supplies (shampoos, tick & flea treatments)
- Disinfectants, germicides, bactericides, miticides, virucides
- Insect repellents
- Rat and rodent control supplies
- Swimming pool supplies
- General use paints, stains, wood preservatives, and sealants
- Invasive terrestrial plant and insect application
- "Minimum risk" pesticides
- Golf course playing surfaces applications (following Best Management Practices for Maine Golf Courses)
- Right-of-way spraying
- Town/School athletic fields
- Ticks and mosquitoes
- Invasive insects species
- Poison ivy and invasive plants
- Structure-damaging animals and insects