

Roadside Maintenance Task Force Meeting
7:00pm, Monday, October 6, 2014
3rd Floor Town Hall

Minutes

- 1.) Call to order and roll call
 - All present
- 2.) Approval of Agenda
 - Unanimous approval
- 3.) Approval of Minutes from last meeting
 - Unanimous approval
- 4.) Old Business
 - Mark - Still waiting to hear from Public Works Branford
 - Claudia and Joanne followed up with Kurt (email from Kurt)
 - Vacate herbicide used (cost sheet included) bought 100 gallons \$315 (in packet)
 - Only ever use 20 pails per year
 - 12-15 gallons per season
 - spray guard rails
 - all along guard rails
 - mow
 - follow up crew will wee whack
 - apply to large areas of poison ivy (trees, hedgerow, resident brings to attention) mostly in July
 - treat asphalt cracks during summer
 - Cost = \$750-800/year to treat - just for product, does not include labor, equipment, fuel, etc.
 - RoundUp - no facts, but did have MSDS sheet (in packet)
 - keep day sheets on all activities (do not keep track of person hours) - schedule of what happens during the day, no specific detail
 - approximated - admin assistant could tally hours if need be
 - 40 hours May
 - 60 hours June
 - 60 hours July
 - Do not separate use of herbicide from other weed whacking in day sheets
 - one guardrail treatment of herbicide per year, sometimes 2
 - 2 cycles of weed whacking, sometimes 3
 - Rob Francis returned Mike's call
 - Last 6-8 years have done treatment for poison ivy only
 - MSDS sheets for RazorPro (contract out)
 - No herbicides/persticides on the fields (not allowed to per state)
 - Pellet Lime used

- Lesco brand fertilizer used
- Information from Andy Pressman
 - Federal Grants available
 - Purdue University Emeritus professor - carrier vehicles 'inactive ingredients' are more of an issue
 - Question procedures for drift management, how trained sprayers are, serious components with tremendous consequences
 - Planting native pollinators as an alternative
- Tina spoke with Bob Cecollini, Director of Cheshire Parks and Recreation
 - Maintains parks and public buildings grounds
 - All fields organic for last 7 years
 - Where chain link fences meet ground - summer crews weed whack to ground. No sprays used.
 - 6 fields maintained by 5 employees. during summer hire crew of 12 high school students
 - Is available to speak with us anytime after next Wed. 10/15
 - Use Nutrients Plus fertilizer (granular) on all fields 3x/year
 - Spread by P&R crew
 - Purchased from Chuck Sherwood from Wallingford; he gets a good price by buying for 3-4 towns at a time.
 - If grubs are an issue, treat with natural/organic nematodes and heavily overseed area.
 - Use Tom Irwin lawn products
 - Poison ivy hand pulled on fields
- Claudia spoke with representative from Ivy Clear (Poison Ivy removal): Mark Corvo
 - Where do you really need to get rid of the poison ivy?
 - Is there foot traffic?
 - What's the danger?
 - Are there areas being treated that don't need to be treated?
 - Pulls from Root, insulated Cartwright overalls, nitrile gloves (double pair), training, tapes gloves to shirt
 - Technu - apply to skin soon after exposure to skin to remove oils

5.) Discussion

- How does it get decided to treat differently? Who will decide? Will there be a public forum?
- Entire countries are eliminating use of herbicides and pesticides. Is this something Durham can do? This is the next new frontier that we can be part of.
- Outdated MSDS - do we use these?
- Who is the keeper of the MSDS sheets? Who authorizes them?

- Come up with the alternative
- Might request MSDS sheets

6.) New Business

- What do individual schools in District 13 use on the fields/fences for Poison Ivy? When? Does it go through the district? What do we spray when we have to? (Joanne)
- Identify different areas that receive treatment regarding what could be done in each of the different scenarios.
 - Guard Rails
 - Chip Sealing
 - Poison Ivy
 - Sight lines
- Mike will speak with Andy Pressman to discuss replacements, implementation, grants
- Tina will talk to Diane about replacements, implementation
- Tina will call Director of Public Works in Cheshire
- Next meeting: Monday, October 20, 2014 7pm, 3rd Floor Town Hall

7.) Public Comment

- None

8.) Adjourn

Charge: The Roadside Maintenance Task Force (RMTF) shall research safe, efficient and cost effective methods of maintaining roadways, roadsides and town property that may minimize and/or eliminate the use of hazardous chemicals. The RMTF shall report its findings to the Board of Selectmen at a regularly scheduled meeting no later than November 10, 2014.