

PETITION
Warrant Article - Annual Town Meeting

(No Less Than Ten Signatures)

We the undersigned registered voters of the Town of Shrewsbury pursuant to G.L. Chapter 39, Section 10 request that the Board of Selectman place onto the next Annual Town Meeting the following warrant article:

Article ____ : To see if the Town will vote to adopt a Town Property Pesticide Reduction bylaw, or to take any other action in relation thereto.

Further, that the following motion be put before the Annual Town Meeting

MOTION: I move that the Town adopt the following Town Property Pesticide Reduction bylaw:

ARTICLE 8D: Town Property Pesticide Reduction bylaw

SECTION 1.

“Director”, the Town Manager/Board of Selectman designee.

“Pesticide”, any substance, or the mixture of substances, used for defoliating plants, regulating plant growth, or for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest, which may be detrimental to vegetation, humans, or animals.

“Town Property”, any property owned by or under the control of the Town of Shrewsbury.

SECTION 2.

The Director may promulgate rules and regulations to implement this section.

The Town of Shrewsbury will focus on long-term prevention or suppression of pest problems on town property with minimum impact on human health, the environment, and non-target organisms with the limited use of pesticides. All costs and impacts associated with pesticide use, including community and environmental health, will be considered.

Pesticides should only be used on town property when other methods fail to provide adequate control of pests and just before pest populations cause an unacceptable damage, since the overuse of pesticides can cause beneficial organisms to be killed and pest resistance to develop.

When pesticides are needed on town property, use the following prioritized approach:

- (1) organic pesticides first, when pesticides are needed
- (2) Clean Water Act allowed pesticides;
- (3) EPA Level III “caution” label pesticide, only if deemed necessary to protect public health and economic impact by a licensed pest control advisor and Town staff.
- (4) EPA Level II “warning” label pesticides, only if deemed necessary to protect public health and economic loss by a licensed pest control advisor and Town staff, when other methods do not adequately control the pest.
- (5) EPA Level I “danger” label pesticides, only if deemed necessary to protect public health and economic loss by a licensed pest control advisor and Town staff, when other methods do not adequately control the pest.

The Director will provide an annual report to the Board of Selectmen reflecting the pesticide usage on town property.

All of the requirements set forth in this by-law shall take effect January 1, 2021.

