



NORTHAMPTON OFFICE
Toxics Action Center
2 Conz St, Suite B
Northampton, MA 01060

April 11, 2019,

Dear Members of the Shrewsbury Board of Health:

At Toxics Action Center, we believe everyone has a right to clean air and clean water and we work side by side with communities facing pollution threats. For over 30 years, we have supported everyday people from across New England work with their cities and towns to limit the use of toxic pesticides and to promote organic, chemical-free alternatives.

Pesticides are hazardous to human health and contaminate our air and water. Developing children, pets, and workers applying pesticides are especially vulnerable to the consequences of pesticide exposure, which include impaired brain development, hormone disruption, and increased risks of developing cancers.

Fortunately, cities and town across Massachusetts are creating policies that put the health of families first by instituting organic land-management practices. We hope that Shrewsbury will be next. That is why **Toxics Action Center endorses Article 20**, which proposes an “organic first” approach to managing town-owned land.

I hope the Board of Health will likewise endorse this important proposed by-law, which will protect the health and well-being of Shrewsbury’s residents.

Sincerely,

Mary Jones

Mary M. Jones
Community Organizer for Western Massachusetts and Connecticut
Toxics Action Center
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