

# Annual Town Meeting - May 2019

## Article 20

**SUBSTITUTED 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, the town will prioritize the use of organic pesticides over pesticides based on synthetic chemicals. Non-organic pesticides may be used when the Director determines their use is necessary to adequately control the pest in order to protect public health and/or economic loss.

SECTION 3.

All pest management activities taking place on town property shall be subject to these Regulations, except as follows:

- (1) Pesticides for the purpose of Mosquito Control
- (2) Pesticides for the purpose of controlling pests in Ponds
- (3) Pesticides for the purpose of controlling pests in Lakes
- (4) Pesticides for the purpose of controlling pests on Town Property that is leased and used for Agricultural purposes

SECTION 4.

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.