INFORMATION UPDATE

TO: Mayor and Members
City Council

DATE: May 1, 2020

SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Cemeteries Cosmetic Pesticide Ban (ES20005) (City Wide)

WARD(S) AFFECTED: City Wide

SUBMITTED BY: Craig Murdoch
Director, Environmental Services Division
Public Works Department

SIGNATURE:

This update serves Council with information on the Provincial Government amendments to Ontario Regulation 63/09, affecting non-agricultural industries, including Cemeteries, which comes into effect on May 1, 2020.

Under the amended Regulation, Cemeteries have been added as an excepted use to the cosmetic pesticide ban, with conditions such as training in Integrated Pest Management and producing an annual report of pesticide use. The amended regulation is now Ontario Regulation 134/20 and can be found here: https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-0601

The City of Hamilton passed a by-law on September 26, 2007 (By-Law No. 07-282), limiting the use of pesticides to address public concern for the environmental well-being of the municipality, and the health, safety and well-being of its residents. This by-law allowed for some exemptions such as golf courses and for line marking on sports fields; however, Cemeteries was not included. The Ontario cosmetic pesticide ban, Regulation 63/09 came into effect on April 22, 2009. This regulation prohibits the use and sale of pesticides that may be used for cosmetic purposes and took the place of existing by-laws, bringing consistency across the Province. Examples of exemptions in the 2009 regulation included: golf courses, forestry, health and safety and other prescribed exceptions.

Hamilton Municipal Cemeteries will not be exercising the option to use pesticides on Cemetery property under Ontario Regulation 134/20 at this time; however, staff will report back to Council later this year with recommendations and include information on potential environmental impacts, associated costs, impact on Cemeteries operations and results of an industry scan.
Please contact John Perrotta, Superintendent of Cemeteries at extension 4402 should you have any questions or concerns respecting the operation of any of the city owned and operated Cemeteries.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Not applicable