

# PESTICIDE SAFETY ISLESBORO

Meeting of Friday, July 6, 2018  
Islesboro Town Office, 2:30 pm

## MINUTES

Present: Linda Gillies, Derreth Roberts, Marilyn Smith  
Attending: Maddy Bruno, Island Institute Fellow

The meeting came to order at 2:35 pm.

Review of current status. There was agreement that while a few members of the summer community had commented about PSI's efforts in a generally positive way, there didn't appear to be a great rush to throw their bottles of Roundup away. We acknowledged that PSI must take the long view, understanding that changing landscaping habits will require a sustained effort over 5-10 years.

Derreth said that recently there were signs along Keller Point Road warning of pesticide spraying (probably synthetic). Marilyn will ask Lang Smith to discretely look into who was responsible for this.

PSI-related activities this summer. There was agreement that PSI should make a brief presentation at the Town's summer information meeting. We should plan no other "public" events at this point. Eventually it might be a good idea to circulate "how to" information about specific pesticide-related subjects, but it is too early.

### New issues/going forward

- Tarratine golf course. At the PSI meeting of June 16<sup>th</sup>, we discussed approaching the board committee and staff of the course about their turf maintenance approach. It was agreed that before doing so, we should learn more about fertilizers in particular, and what other golf courses do about the issue of chemical use in general. Maddy Bruno said that sustainable aquaculture is impossible if fertilizers are in the water. She will get more information from the Island Institute staff, for whom sustainable aquaculture is a priority. Derreth will look for relevant information on the United State Golf Association's website. Linda will reach out to golf courses on North Haven and in Rockport, as well as Maidstone in East Hampton, New York.
- Arsenic in wells. Maddy said that she had met with the Groundwater Protection Committee about this issue. She will bring more information about well testing to our next meeting.

- During the meeting, it became clear that although we have done the work to prepare the brochures and website, as a committee we are not entirely clear about which pesticides are most harmful and why, and where our priorities should be. For instance, should PSI focus more on herbicides or on insecticides? At our next meeting we should try to clarify PSI's priorities.

Next meeting. The next meeting was scheduled for Friday, July 20 at 2:30 in the Town Office meeting room. Linda will find out whether Kevin Gardner, a Professor of Environmental Engineering at the University of New Hampshire who was helpful with the brochure/website research, might be able to come.

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Gillies

#### To Do

- Find out about spraying on Keller Point. (MS)
- Find out when the Town's Summer Information Meeting is and ask to be included on the agenda. (LG)
- Get information about the effect of fertilizers in water from the Island Institute. (MB)
- Look on the USGA website for information about pesticides/golf courses. (DR)
- Contact local golf courses about their approach to pesticide use. (LG)
- Get information about well testing from the Groundwater Protection Committee. (MB)
- Ask Kevin Gardner to the July 20<sup>th</sup> PSI meeting. (LG)

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