

Pesticides and fertilizers prohibited in Wentworth

Pursuing the goal of making Wentworth Township a leader in environment protection for the benefit of all its residents, the municipal council of Wentworth has adopted in July 2007 the **Bylaw with respect to the use of pesticides and fertilizers on the territory of the Township of Wentworth** (bylaw number 2007-004).

Here are the highlights of this bylaw:

Prohibitions:

- Use of **pesticides** is **prohibited** in the municipality. Pesticides include herbicides, fungicides, insecticides and other biocides.
- Use of **fertilizers** is **prohibited** in the municipality.
- Those prohibitions also apply to sod impregnated with fertilizers and/or pesticides and to hydraulic seeding with solutions containing fertilizers and/or pesticides.

Exemptions:

- **Low impact pesticides** are accepted. Low impact pesticides include: organic pesticides, fatty acids, insecticidal soaps, horticultural oil, botanical insecticides, diatom earth.
- Use of **compost** as a fertilizer in **gardens** located no closer than **15** meters of lakes or streams is permitted.
- In situations of **major infestation** endangering the survival of plants or posing a danger to human health, a **temporary permit** for the use of pesticides can be obtained at the municipal office. Detailed rules relative to such a temporary permit are specified in the bylaw.
- The use of pesticides and fertilizers by **golf courses** is governed by the Code for the management of pesticides in Quebec and by specific rules formulated in the bylaw, including: establishment of a 3 meter protection band along streams and ponds, obligation to formulate pesticides and fertilizers reduction plans and to review those plans every three years and to submit them to the municipality.

Penal provisions:

- A physical person committing a first offence is liable **minimum fine of 300 \$** and of a maximum of 2000 \$. A moral person (company, business) committing a first offence is liable to a fine of 500 \$ minimum and 2 500 \$ maximum. Fines increase if offence is repeated.

Note: this summary is not law. Only the unabridged text of the bylaw is law. For information contact the Municipal office at 450 562 0701.