

Springtime Reminder: Use of Pesticides Banned on Lawns **Residents should advise their lawn care contractors that the County law banning the use of cosmetic pesticides on lawns applies in the Village**

The County Pesticide Law, Chapter 33b, has been adopted and applies on all properties in the Village. The law, which was enacted by the County in 2015, restricts the use of certain pesticides on private lawns, playgrounds, mulched recreation areas, and childcare facilities. Most synthetic pesticides to treat pests in lawns are also not allowed. Organic or minimum-risk pesticides are allowed for use on these areas. Exceptions are made for the treatment of biting and stinging insects (including treatment for mosquitoes).

The purpose of the law is to protect the public health and welfare and to minimize the potential pesticide hazard to people and the environment. In addition to potential harm to children and pets, the application of these chemicals contributes to pollution of water sources and is fatal to many beneficial insects and songbirds.

The Environment & Energy Committee has worked to raise awareness of the environmental hazards associated with chemical applications on residents' yards. We encourage you to visit the committee's webpage for more information on this topic.

<https://www.chevy ChaseVillageMD.gov/258/Environment-Energy-Committee>

Additionally, the County offers many resources for practicing organic lawn care. Their extensive web pages highlight tips and tools for successful lawn care.

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/lawns/>

Residents should advise your lawn care contractor that this County law applies in the Village. It should not be a burden for any commercial lawn care company as the law has been in effect County-wide for over two years. The Village has merely joined neighboring municipalities by opting into existing county legislation to protect children, pets and the environment.

Enforcement of this law is handled by the County. Residents who seek to report a violation should contact the County by dialing 311. You may also file a report online via the following link:
<https://www3.montgomerycountymd.gov/311/Solutions.aspx?SolutionId=1-51D807>

Be sure to include in your report:

- the date and time of the violation,
- any information on the pesticide used or the applicator,
- and the address.

Residents can download and print an informational flier produced by the county's Department of Environmental Protection to provide to your landscape contractors at the following link:

https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/lawns/Resources/Files/pesticide-law-mailer/PesticideMailer_English-Spanish.pdf

The entire law is available here:

https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/montgomerycounty/latest/montgomeryco_md/0-0-0-19665