

Mayor's Water Quality Committee Agenda  
For May 7, 2020

- a. Call to order;
- b. **Roll call**; Steve Bartush, Jim Bartley, Tom Closter, John Crespo, Diane Lauricella, Dick Harris, Pete Johnson, Chris Malik, Harry Rilling, John Romano, Joe Schnierlein, Geoff Steadman, Louise Washer
- c. **Communications**;  
DEEP, -  
Eversource, -  
Dept. of Transportation via Shellfish Comm.  
Dept of Health
- d. **Public comments**
- e. **Old business**;
  - 1) Potential to start WQ monitoring still no word
  - 2) Testing of shellfish and fish for PFAS and PFOS
  - 3) Letter to ban pesticides and herbicides, Louise to deliver to Hartford.
- f. **New business**;
  - 1) Ridgefield Fox Hill flood control dam
  - 2) Letter to the officers of Shorehaven, Silvermine and Oak Hills requesting that if they use Chlorpyrifos, to cease doing so as it is harmful to the environment, and will eventually make its way to LIS.
  - 3) **Drinking Water Week**: Diane L. to give brief proposal about PFAS in Public Drinking Water and New initiative for Private wells
  - 4) **facts relating to COVID19 in Wastewater treatment process and discharge to Long Island Sound and Rivers**
  - 5) Anything else?
- g. Reading and approval of minutes from Feb. 6, 2020 –  
<https://www.norwalkct.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/15724>
- h. Next meeting tentatively June 4.
- i. Adjournment.



## **SUPPORT SB 301, An Act Concerning the Use of Chlorpyrifos**

### **CHLORPYRIFOS** (klor·pee·ruh·faas)

Chlorpyrifos is a **highly toxic pesticide** (a substance used to kill, repel or control pests) derived from a nerve gas that has been banned from indoor use since 2001

### **DANGERS OF CHLORPYRIFOS**

- Scientific studies have linked chlorpyrifos to brain damage in children, autism, cancer, Parkinson's disease, and a whole host of other negative human health issues.
- Healthy pregnancies and fetal brain development are particularly vulnerable to harm from chlorpyrifos and other organophosphate pesticides.<sup>1</sup>
- Chlorpyrifos is also known to be extremely harmful to wildlife, namely birds, fish and pollinators. Federal scientists have concluded this pesticide poses a risk to about 1,800 critically threatened or endangered species.<sup>2</sup>
- Farmers, farmworkers, rural communities and communities in close proximity to golf courses are especially at risk of immediate and long-term adverse health impacts due to direct exposure to chlorpyrifos.

### **THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FAILED TO TAKE ACTION**

- In 2015 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed banning chlorpyrifos after decades of scientific studies led to the conclusion that there is **no safe amount of chlorpyrifos for any use**.
- Despite overwhelming evidence demonstrating the health and environmental dangers of chlorpyrifos, the federal government has refused to follow through with the ban.

### **INDIVIDUAL STATES MUST BAN CHLORPYRIFOS**

- Since the federal government has abdicated its duty, state governments are taking action. Thus far, **Hawaii, California and New York have taken steps to ban chlorpyrifos**. The EU has also banned chlorpyrifos.
- **Chlorpyrifos is still being used throughout Connecticut on golf courses, farms and plant nurseries putting CT residents at risk and harming our environment.**
- According to DEEP's own data, farms only account for 10.8% of chlorpyrifos used in CT. Golf courses account for 86% of chlorpyrifos use, totaling more than 590 gallons in 2019. The 8 largest users in the state are all golf courses. One farm alone accounts for 1/3 of chlorpyrifos use by farms in CT.
- The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has a strong history of implementing laws passed by the CT General Assembly that regulate pesticides.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Hertz-Picciotto, I., Sass, J. B., Engel, S., Bennett, D. H., Bradman, A., Eskenazi, B. et al. (2018). Organophosphate exposures during pregnancy and child neurodevelopment: Recommendations for essential policy reforms. *PLoS medicine*, 15(10), e1002671. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002671>

<sup>2</sup> Lipton, E. (2019). Interior Nominee Intervened to Block Report on Endangered Species. *New York Times*. Retrieved from <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/26/us/politics/endangered-species-david-bernhardt.html>

<sup>3</sup> CT School and Child Care Facility Pesticide Statutes Sec 10-231a, Pesticide Applications at Schools: Authorized Applications. Ban. Exceptions. Sec. 10-231b,

**The Following Organizations, Businesses and Farms Endorse Banning Chlorpyrifos NOW:**

Altraform, LLC  
Aspetuck Land Trust  
Catch a Healthy Habit Cafe  
Citizens Campaign for the Environment  
Coalition for a Safe and Healthy CT.  
Connecticut League of Conservation Voters (CT-LCV)  
Connecticut Families Against Chemical Trespass (ConnFACT)  
Connecticut Public Interest Research Group (ConnPIRG)  
Connecticut Fund for the Environment  
Connecticut Early Childhood Alliance  
Connecticut Fund for the Environment  
Conservation Coalition  
Earthjustice  
East Granby Land Trust  
Environment Connecticut  
Friends of the Earth  
Friends of Animals  
Friends of Sunrise-Machimoodus Park  
GMO Free USA  
GMO Free CT  
Grass Roots West Hartford  
Housatonic Valley Association  
Lachat Town Farm  
Live Green  
Middlesex Coalition for Children  
Norwalk Mayor's Water Quality Committee  
Norwalk River Watershed Association  
Save the Sound  
Shundahai Farm  
Sierra Club Connecticut  
The Pollinator Pathway  
The Connecticut Audubon Society  
Wells Hill Farm  
Westport Farmers Market  
Windham Regional Community Council  
Wintonbury Land Trust