



Green Industry Position on Ontario's Proposed Cosmetic Ban Legislation

February 12, 2008

A Coalition of the following green industry professionals: Ontario Parks Association, Ontario Recreation Facilities Association, Landscape Ontario Horticultural Trades Association, Sports Turf Association and the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association support the following position on Ontario's proposed pesticide ban legislation.

This Coalition of green industry associations represents over 8,000 horticultural operations, 445 Parks systems, athletic and sports field professionals, 100,000 employees and 5 Billion dollars of economic activity

Position Statement

We support cosmetic ban legislation that allows for Plant Health Care/IPM processes in the case of infestations and also to protect the health and safety of the public and environment.

Details

The Coalition recognizes that the Province has the expertise to develop harmonized legislation that will apply equally and fairly to all municipalities and stakeholders. We also believe that public education of proper horticultural practices is essential to reduce our reliance on traditional pesticides.

We support:

- A tiered approach to product restrictions based on level of professionalism and education (i.e. Consumer, Professional and Speciality uses have an increasing level of associated knowledge which should be recognized in legislation)
- The availability of low risk products
- A ban on products that are deemed to be high-risk
- 3 year phase in
- Raising professional standards, licensing and education with respect to IPM and Plant Health Care
- Research to identify and develop low risk alternatives and improved cultural practices