

# Council's reversal on pesticide use will see many parks sprayed this fall

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"Council does not seem to understand that funds need to be funneled into this work (increased alternative turf management) in order for their three-year program to be successful, otherwise the policy is a joke as there is little action behind it," Kuchinad said.

Targeted areas for fall 2003 pesticide use due to concerns over turf health and weeds are sports fields— Cedarvale, Limehouse, Glen Williams and Hornby parks, cemeteries— Fairview, Hornby and Fifth Line Pioneer, parks— Gellert Community Park, Maple Creek Parkette, Maple Creek Park, Smith Drive Parkette, Danville Park, Birchway Place Parkette and Dominion Gardens Park, open space at Bovis Creek and boulevards on Sargent Rd., Argyll Rd., Sinclair Ave. and Clare Court. Remembrance Park, Fairy Lake Dam, Acton Area, Civic Centre parking lot and washroom buildings have also been highlighted.

The new rules state that herbicides may only be applied if an infestation is likely to expand if not controlled any other way. Thresholds have been set: 15 per cent of weeds per square metre on sports fields; 20 per cent at Greenwood and Fairview cemeteries; 20 per cent at town buildings such as Civic Centre, arenas and fire halls and formal gardens; and 50 per cent at parks, pioneer cemeteries and boulevards.

Insecticides will only be applied if there are 10 European chafer or June beetles per square metre or if there are 25 chinch bugs

per baited coffee can.

Use of pesticides will be posted in local newspapers. Councillor Moya Johnson, an opponent of pesticide use, requested— and council approved— that signs notifying of the use of pesticides remain at the site seven days after application and town will also notify any groups using these sites about the applications.

Pesticides will not be applied within 15 metres of watercourses, school sites, day-care operations or play structures or on days designated as air quality alert days by Halton Region.

VanRyn also took the opportunity Monday to take council to task about the condition of the lawn at Remembrance Park in Georgetown.

"It's a bloody disgrace. Is that how we treat people, who have died for us?" VanRyn said. "When is the town actually going to fix up the lawn? ... It is no wonder kids don't have any respect for it, when the town hasn't maintained it properly in the last two years... Will you please clean it up?"

"This council is very sensitive to the upkeep of Remembrance Park," said Mayor Kathy Gastle. "Last year due to the weather, the turf did take a huge beating but I know Mr. (Warren) Harris has been working with the Dutch community, who have put a huge effort at the park and this fall there will be improvements made. ... It's just taken a little more time than we thought."

—By Cynthia Gamble, staff writer

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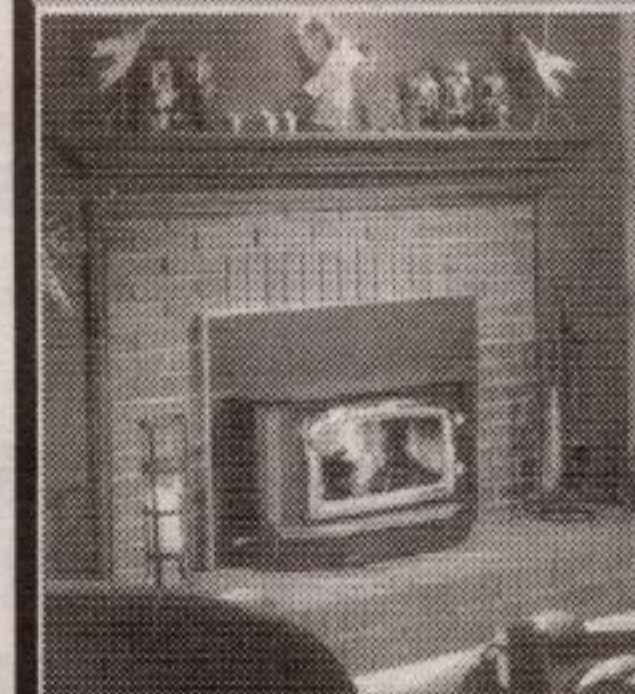


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## Safety recall notice: Yardworks cordless lawnmower



Product number 60-1767: 24V with 19" cutting width

Canadian Tire is voluntarily recalling Yardworks branded cordless lawnmowers sold since January 2002, due to a design defect and potential safety issue. It has been determined that this model poses a potential fire hazard due to a connector under the cover that can dislodge and overheat the surrounding area, possibly creating sparks that could lead to a fire.

#### Action to take if you have purchased this product:

Canadian Tire has not been notified of any instance of injury, but is requesting that customers discontinue the use of this product immediately and return it to their nearest Canadian Tire store for a full refund, along with the purchase receipt if possible.

#### How to identify this product:

The Yardworks cordless lawnmower can be identified as follows:

"Yardworks" logo identification on the front of the mower cover

"24V" and the product number "60-1767" appear on the top of the unit



#### This recall does not apply to:

- Rechargeable mowers purchased prior to January 2002
- Any reel, gas-powered or electric Yardworks mower.