

Borough responsibilities

The boroughs are responsible for enforcing the by-law concerning pesticide use.

The boroughs may amend the by-law to make the provisions more restrictive. These amendments are authorized only to address the following concerns:

- Sensitive areas:
Boroughs may designate certain parks, community gardens or cemeteries as sensitive areas.
- Exceptions:
Boroughs may impose more restrictive conditions on all or part of their territories.
- Permit validity period:
Boroughs may reduce the validity period.
- Conditions for the application of pesticides:
Boroughs may impose more restrictive conditions.

In your borough

For more information on the by-law and how it is enforced locally, please visit your borough or Accès Montréal office.

Violations and fines

Individuals who violate any provisions of this by-law are liable to a fine ranging from \$100 to \$4,000.

More information

For helpful tips on alternatives to pesticide use, or to learn about the products that are authorized under the by-law, please visit ville.montreal.qc.ca/pesticides. Horticultural fliers or sheets published by the Montréal Botanical Garden are available at this Web site and all city points of service.

Pest Management Regulatory Agency Web site: pmra-arla.gc.ca

Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs Web site under Pesticides: mddep.gouv.qc.ca

Health Canada healthy lawns Web site: healthylawns.net

Official text

The official text of the by-law concerning pesticide use (O4-O41) is available at all borough and Accès Montréal offices, as well as online at ville.montreal.qc.ca/pesticides (in French only).



MONTRÉAL

PESTICIDE FREE

By-laws O4-O41 and O4-O41-1

Understanding the by-law concerning pesticide use

AN INCREASING NUMBER OF MONTREALERS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT PESTICIDE USE. THESE PRODUCTS ARE HAZARDOUS TO THE ENVIRONMENT AND HUMAN HEALTH AND MUST BE APPLIED WITH CARE.

The Rule

The use of pesticides outside buildings is prohibited.

Despite this prohibition, some low-toxicity products may be used anywhere at any time. These include biopesticides, mineral oil or low-impact pesticides as defined in the by-law.

Infestation

An infestation is defined as the presence of insects, mildew or other noxious agents, except noxious weeds, on more than 50% of a lawn area or on more than five square metres of a plant bed area.

Exceptions

Prohibited products may be used in exceptional situations, all of which are outlined in the by-law:

- For an infestation (see sidebar).
- Within a radius of five metres of warehouses, food and pharmaceutical product plants, to ensure vermin control.
- Around doors and window frames, for spider control.
- On the base of a building and on a 30-centimetre strip around it, for ant control.

In all these cases, pesticide use is conditional upon being issued a permit. Also, the area where the pesticides will be applied must not be near a sensitive area, such as a daycare centre, school, hospital or playground.

There is also an infestation where the presence of noxious weeds, insects, mildew or other noxious agents, whatever the extent, constitutes a hazard for safety, health, trees or shrubs, or animal health (art. 2).

The borough reserves the right to visit the premises before issuing a permit.

Permits

It costs \$10 for an individual and \$25 for a corporation to purchase a permit from a borough or Accès Montréal office. Such a permit is valid for a maximum of 10 days from the date of issue and comes with a number of strict conditions regarding:

- The times when the pesticide may be applied.
- The mandatory distance from a body of water.
- Weather conditions, including the smog factor.
- The posting of information, before, during and after the pesticide is applied.

THE USER MUST ALSO:

- Remove toys, bicycles, wading pools and other equipment used by children.
- Ensure that vegetable gardens and swimming pools nearby are protected from contamination.

Special conditions

Under the by-law, special conditions apply to golf courses, bowling greens, properties used for horticultural purposes and some activities of the Montréal Nature Museums (including the Botanical Garden).

