

MEMORANDUM

May 6, 2020

From: Meadows-Ferndale Board of Directors
To: Meadows-Ferndale Owners and Residents
Subject: Spraying in the Meadows

Within the past week, homeowners have noted evidence of spraying in the wetlands and along the grass strip near the street, specifically asking why and what, and if spraying is appropriate in the wetlands.

The board has contacted both contractors, who have been very responsive in explaining.

Our wetlands are maintained by Squalicum Mountain Mountain Ecological Restoration, Inc., one of very few landscape contractors who are trained and certified to maintain protected wetlands

Rodeo, an aquatic herbicide certified for direct use in water, was used to control the reed canary grass growing among the cattails. There is really no other way to control the grass, which is extremely invasive. This procedure has been done numerous times in the Meadows wetlands, and is recommended in the annual Aqua-Terr Systems Inc. (ATSI) monitoring report. This annual review and report is mandated by the Army Corps of Engineers and the Washington State Department of Ecology. All of the crew are certified WSDA herbicide applicators.

The spray was used in areas where it was the only option to control the canary grass. Care was taken to avoid areas near the trails, fences, and houses to limit contact with the residents.

Our public areas (including the grass strip along the sidewalks and street) are maintained by Windwood Enterprises, Inc.

The Windwood crew lead was doing a broad-leaf weed herbicide application on the road strips as part of the maintenance contract. The herbicide application is to control the different broad-leaf weeds in the lawn; dandelion, clover, butter cup, etc. They use a Saber Herbicide 2-4-D and Speed Zone mix, which is reported to be eco-friendly.

Both contractors state the products they use are pet and people "safe", though 'safe' or 'friendly' are not words to really associate with any pesticide or chemical. All pesticides/chemicals, whether they are synthetic or organic, can be dangerous in their concentrated or mixed forms and many can be after they are mixed. The word to use is "toxicity", and all these products are relatively low toxicity to people and pets.

We hope this is an adequate and comforting response to the questions asked.

Sincerely,

/Meadows-Ferndale HOA Board of Directors/