

Memorandum

September 29, 2023

To: Commissioners of Poolesville
From: Wade Yost, Town Manager
RE: Montgomery County Pesticide law

Recently a resident inquired about the Town's position regarding opting into the County's pesticide law. After a discussion with a few Commissioners, it was determined that the topic was important enough to review again, especially considering the recent PFAS detection.

The issue was discussed in early 2020. Several folks testified, both pros and cons of opting into the ordinance. The issue was discussed, and no action was taken.

The minutes reflect:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ling Tan – Spoke in support of the Town adopting the pesticides ordinance.

Mary Travaglini – Manager, Organic Lawn and Landscape Program at Montgomery County, Maryland. She manages the pesticides ordinance at the county and discussed how the ordinance works in other parts of the county. Of the 21 jurisdictions in Montgomery County, 2 have not opted into the ordinance.

Joyce Brenner – Spoke on behalf of applying for a Commercial Resilience Planning Grant. She noted that Khalid Malik is the point of contact. She also spoke in favor of the County's pesticide ordinance.

JD and Julie Kuhlman – Supports the Beulieu project. Oppose the Town adopting the Montgomery County pesticide ordinance. There can be unintended consequences of not applying pesticides.

Bernie Mihm – Stated the State of Maryland does a good job at regulating pesticides and that the Town should not adopt Montgomery County's standards. He presented a list of household cleaning products that were more harmful than Roundup.

Michael Jamison – Noted that the Town should not adopt Montgomery County's standards.

Bob Cissel – spoke against adopting Montgomery County's pesticides ordinance.

Bob Roit – concerned that increasing County regulations would increase County bureaucracy.

More direct information:

[Pesticide Law home page \(montgomerycountymd.gov\)](https://montgomerycountymd.gov)

[What pesticides are allowed - Pesticide Law - Montgomery County, Maryland \(montgomerycountymd.gov\)](https://montgomerycountymd.gov)

The following jurisdictions in Montgomery County have not yet opted into the law:

- Laytonville
- Poolesville

Poolesville Water Supply Evaluation

S.S. PAPADOPULOS & ASSOCIATES

October 7, 2021

Most aquifers in the Piedmont are unconfined aquifers (also called water-table aquifers), meaning that there is no overlying impermeable layer to protect ground water from surface-based sources of contamination. The water table represents the top of the unconfined aquifer. Because they do not have a protective layer above them, unconfined aquifers are susceptible to contamination from substances released on or near the surface, including fertilizers, pesticides, road salt, leaking underground storage tanks, and runoff from impermeable surfaces.