

# Blue Hill HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM ORDINANCE — at a Glance

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

As of January 31, 2020, the Town of Blue Hill's HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM ORDINANCE:

***“Prohibits the use of synthetic pesticides and fertilizer mixes containing synthetic pesticides on all public and private property within the town of Blue Hill.”***

The town enacted this Ordinance to protect the health of our waterways, residents, pets, and natural ecosystems.

By eliminating synthetic pesticides and establishing organic practices, will result in healthy soil with fewer pests and weeds.

## UNDERSTANDING THE BASICS OF THE ORDINANCE

Blue Hill's HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM ORDINANCE restrictions apply to all turf, landscape, and outdoor pest management activities in the town, on both public and private property.

This includes the following areas:

- Lawns
- Vegetable and ornamental gardens
- Landscaped areas
- Patios
- Sidewalks
- Driveways
- Parks and playing fields
- Fields and woodlands



Tree Planting, 2024

## IF NECESSARY, WHAT PRODUCTS CAN BE USED?

Pesticides and fertilizers approved for organic use may be used in Blue Hill. Check the product label for this information. **The Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI)** reviews and lists products that meet organic standards: [omri.org/omri-search](http://omri.org/). Not all approved products are OMRI listed.

Please read all product labels and follow usage instructions carefully. Some organic pesticides and treatments may cause harm if used incorrectly.

In addition to the organic pesticides above, the Ordinance also allows the following:

***“The use or application of synthetic substances specifically listed as ‘allowed’ on the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances, (National Organic Program)***

***CFR Title 7 205.601 except for 205.601 (b) and the use or application of pesticides determined to be ‘minimum risk pesticides’ pursuant to the FIFRA and listed in 40 CFR 152.25 (f).”***

## ARE THERE ANY EXEMPTIONS?

The following are some of the common applications that are exempt from the Ordinance:

- Indoor and structural pest management (eg. termites)
- Commercial agriculture
- Pet supplies (shampoos, tick and flea treatments)
- Insect repellants for bodily application
- Rat and rodent control supplies
- Swimming pool supplies
- General use paints, stains, wood preservatives and sealants

Use of these applications are subject to strict adherence to manufactures' usage instructions.

## CAN I GET A WAIVER FROM PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCE?

You may apply for a waiver from provisions of this Ordinance from the Town of Blue Hill's Public Health Officer.

- **See the full Ordinance on the Town of Blue Hill website for details of the Ordinance.**