28.04.17

Thank you for the letter in regard to chemical use in Buckfastleigh Parish.  I have advised my contractor and our cleansing department of the Town Councils request to cease all glysophate based chemical use in the parish of Buckfastleigh

Further to the request for a list of chemicals used.

* Glysophate proactive
* Geocel Geochem (moss and algae treatment for hard surfaces) COSHH assessment attached

No **pesticides or Neonicotinoids** have been used by contractors working for TDC as part of the current grounds maintenance  contract .

Alternatives to Glysophate

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Alternatives | Pros | Cons |
| Foam stream treatment | No chemicals or residue | Expensive  Labour intensive  Rarely eradicates weeds completely.  Need for constant applications |
| Horticultural  strength vinegar (60% stronger than household) | No chemicals or residue | Poor results, constant applications required |
| Manual hoeing | No chemicals | Labour intensive  Impossible to remove roots  Re- growth |
| Flame weed control | No chemical or residue | Concerns over H&S whilst being used  Risk of fire spreading if weather is very dry |

I am consulting with our car parks and property departments over the use of chemicals as some treatments are required on surfaces for health and safety reasons, the likelihood is that this treatment will continue.

Lastly have local farmers and agricultural chemical users in the parish of Buckfastleigh been lobbied to cease applications as they are likely to be using much larger amounts of glysophate based chemical that the small amount used for the control of perennial weeds on land owned by the authority.

I hope this provides the information requested and should any aspects require more clarification please contact me directly.

Many thanks

Kind regards

Mark Payne

Grounds Maintenance Officer

Environment & Leisure

Teignbridge District Council