

Hawkesbury City Council



Your Ref:

Our Ref: 1981957

9 June 2005

366 George Street
(PO Box 146)
Windsor NSW 2756
Phone: 02 4560 4444
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Mr Murray Thompson

BLIGH PARK NSW 2756

Dear Mr Thompson

Spraying of Chemicals

Thank you for your letter dated 26 May 2005 regarding the spraying of chemicals within the Hawkesbury District. This reply relates to the spraying of chemicals around playgrounds and within parks only.

Please note that whilst there are no regulations in place to notify residents/adjoining owners when spraying roundup, every effort is made not to spray chemicals in parks where possible. Due to the large amount of open space within the Hawkesbury there is a need however to spray as there is limited funds and staff to carry out alternatives such as brush cutting. There are very strict procedures that staff have to follow and regulations come in to play on 1 September 2005 which will ensure that all persons spraying will have to have met training guidelines set up by the 'Pesticides Amendment (User Training) Regulation 2003'. Staff also follow the Material Safety Data Sheets that are provided when buying such chemicals.

It is believed that the EPA are investigating further procedures which will require Council staff and other operators to advertise where they are spraying so that people who are sensitive to such chemicals can avoid those areas. Investigations are currently under way to see if it is viable for Council staff to start such procedures before they become part of the regulation. Park staff have in the interim been told not to spray around playgrounds.

For further information please don't hesitate to contact me directly on (02) 45604507.

Yours faithfully

Sean Perry
Manager Parks and Recreation

where people make the difference.

All communications to be addressed to the General Manager
P.O. Box 146, Windsor NSW 2756
Website: www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au
E-mail: council@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au