

Local Newsletter

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In 2019 concerned residents of Balerno signed a petition asking for a Pesticide Free Balerno - they asked the council to stop pesticide use for weed control and to use safe alternatives instead.

In 2020, agreement was made with the Transport and Environment committee to stop using Glyphosate for weed control and to trial safe alternatives.



Edinburgh council have KNOWN about the harmful nature of this chemical and have been 'discussing' the need to 'URGENTLY' stop the use of Glyphosate for weed removal since 2016!!!

Meanwhile Glyphosate use continues all over Edinburgh -without individuals consent, right outside peoples door steps . Balerno decided there was no more time for discussion and action was long overdue to protect health of residents and the environment from this toxic substance.

Although some positive steps have been made by Edinburgh Council , these are long overdue and residents and volunteers have been the most committed towards change.



Why we should stop using Glyphosate

- Huge lawsuits reported worldwide against glyphosate
- Dog sickness / dog illness / dog sore paws following applications of Glyphosate
- Glyphosate linked to cancer in humans and animals
- Residents reporting feeling unwell after Glyphosate applications
- Children reporting unresolved coughs linked to Glyphosate applications
- Worsening of asthma /Hay-fever/ allergies following applications
- Damaging of surrounding private property by Glyphosate applications
- Run off into waterways of Glyphosate
- Reports of Glyphosate being used on windy rainy days (manufacturer recommends against this)
- Speedy quad bike applications of Glyphosate being impossible to avoid (especially difficult for the elderly & disabled)
- Safe Alternatives are readily available and used successfully by other councils around the U.K.
- Safe Alternatives are proven to be safe, cost effective and viable -when used correctly!
- Concerns lodged for children who are out playing in areas where Glyphosate is being applied
- Concerns for local wildlife & biodiversity unwittingly being poisoned or coming into contact with Glyphosate.



Pesticide Free Balerno know much more action is urgently required from the council in correctly administering public funds to remove weeds safely in communities.