

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
City of Newton

February 18, 1997



**JOINT PROCLAMATION  
HIS HONOR THE MAYOR - HONORABLE BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

Whereas, pesticides are toxic by design, and

*in addition to their intended effect on pests, pesticides also harm non-target organisms such as humans, pets, beneficial insects, fish and wildlife, and*

Whereas, many of the ingredients in pesticide **products, alone and in combination, are not tested for** their long term toxic effects on the brain and nervous systems, the endocrine system, or the immune system, and

Whereas, exposure to pesticides can be particularly harmful to children and their development, and

Whereas, Newton 's Green Decade Coalition Committee for Alternatives to Pesticides (Green CAP) has learned that many people would not use pesticides if they knew the environmental risks and the threat to health that pesticides pose to people, especially children, and if they knew that there are safer, more cost effective, and ecologically-sound ways to control weeds, insects and rodents, and

Whereas, it is in the best interest of the City and its residents to learn about controlling weeds, insects and rodents with a planned approach to environmental management that reduces the risk of exposure to pesticides,

Therefore, we proclaim March 1997 as "Alternatives to Pesticides Month" in Newton

- \* we commit the City to beginning the strongest possible effort to reduce the use of pesticides on city property, leading eventually to eliminating pesticides wherever possible, and
- \* we urge the citizens of Newton to take full advantage of opportunities to learn about the hazards of pesticides and about ecological approaches to landscaping and pest control and
- \* we encourage citizens to learn about strategies for reducing the use of pesticides in their homes, gardens, lawns and workplaces, schools and other places in the community.

Resolution offered by:

Ald. Brooke Lipsitt

Given this eighteenth day  
of February in the year 1997

Handwritten signature of Edward G. English in cursive script.

Edward G. English  
City Clerk

Handwritten signature of Thomas B. Concannon, Jr. in cursive script.

Thomas B. Concannon, Jr.  
Mayor

**PLEDGE TO LEARN ABOUT ALTERNATIVES TO PESTICIDES**