



Waitaki

DISTRICT COUNCIL
TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WAITAKI

Growing strong communities.

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- What chemicals (pesticides, herbicides, fungicides etc.) does the council apply to areas of wood chip or bark mulch on council owned and / or operated parks, recreational areas, and reserves (any public area where people may be foraging for mushrooms)?
- What chemicals (pesticides, herbicides, fungicides etc.) does the council apply to grass areas on council owned and / or operated parks, recreational areas, and reserves (any public area where people may be foraging for mushrooms)?
- What steps are undertaken to notify the public about areas that have been sprayed?
- Does the council spray any areas as a response to the growth of illegal (psilocybin containing) mushrooms?

We are not aware of people foraging for mushrooms in the district however there will be areas where this does occur that we are not aware of. We do not target any spraying of any mushrooms whether this be legal or illegal.

Council will only be applying herbicide chemicals on areas where there is bark mulch. We use the least toxic chemical available and are targeting weeds in these areas. The most common chemical we use is Glyphosate and it is applied as per the label requirements.

On turf areas it does depend on the issue that we are trying to address. Our sports fields will have herbicides applied to remove broadleaf weeds. However, there are times where we have insect issues where we have to apply insecticides. As was mentioned above we use the least toxic chemicals available. I am not aware of any instance in the last 5 years where we have applied any fungicides however if there is an issue on our fine turf areas then we will use the least toxic chemical.

Our contractors are required to be trained in handling and applying chemicals safely. Awareness of legislation is key to this training and abiding by the rules and best practice is a standard requirement in our contracts. Signage is expected to be placed whilst work is occurring and to be up if advised as part of the safety data sheet information. In some spaces this is not that visible due to the openness of these area.

