

**ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

*HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR  
AND COUNCILLORS*

**SUBJECT: EUROPEAN CHAFER**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. THAT Council receive this report for information purposes.

**REPORT**

The Environment Committee, at its meeting held on 2008 June 10, received and adopted the *attached* report informing Council of the proposed sale of a limited number of nematode packages to Burnaby residents at retail cost to encourage the use of bacteriological treatment over chemical treatment.

Last year, the sale of nematode packages to Burnaby residents was extremely successful and it is believed that this year's sale will also encourage sustainable landscape maintenance practices that will align with the requirements of the upcoming cosmetic pesticide bylaw.

Details on registration and pick up locations, dates and times will be advertized in local papers and on the City website.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor D. Johnston  
Chair

Councillor P. Calendino  
Vice Chair

Councillor L. Rankin

Copied to: City Manager Director Finance Director Engineering
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**TO:** CHAIR AND MEMBERS  
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

**DATE:** 2008 June 04

**FROM:** DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

**FILE:** 33000-05  
*Reference: European Chafer*

**SUBJECT:** EUROPEAN CHAFER

**PURPOSE:** To inform the Committee and Council of the proposed sale of a limited number of nematode packages to Burnaby residents at retail cost to encourage the use of bacteriological treatment over chemical treatment.

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **THAT** the Committee recommend Council to receive this report for information purposes.

## REPORT

For the past few years, an increasing number of private and public lands in Burnaby have been impacted by the European Chafer (*Rhizotrogus majalis*), a non-native beetle that spends the majority of its life as a white grub (larva) in the soil. The grub form of the Chafer causes damage to turf grass in fall and spring when the grub feeds on turf roots. Secondary damage to lawns, grassed boulevards and medians is caused by birds, skunks and racoons digging through the turf to feed on grubs. Since the introduction of European chafer in New Westminster in 2001 this turf pest has also been confirmed to be present in Vancouver and Coquitlam.

This year, while continuing with the comprehensive public education and public land remediation program as in the past, staff are once again proposing sale of a limited number of nematode packages to Burnaby residents at retail cost to encourage the use of bacteriological treatment over chemical treatment. Last year, the sale of a limited number of nematode packages was extremely successful and subsequent responses received from residents requested continuance of this activity this year as well.

For this year, it is proposed that registration and pre-payment for the nematode packages be required. Walk in sales will not be available during pick-up on 2008 July 12 and 13. There will be a limit of two packages per private property which will be adequate to treat a standard sized single family lot. Details on registration and pick up locations, dates and times will be advertized in local papers and on the City website.

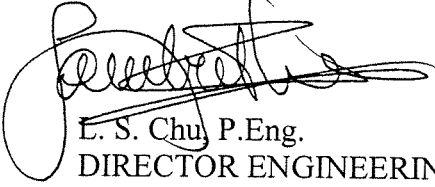
To: *Environment Committee*

From: *Director Engineering*

Re: *European Chafer*

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Building up on the public education and public land remediation activities, the sale of nematodes to Burnaby residents will encourage sustainable landscape maintenance practices and align with the requirements of the upcoming cosmetic pesticide bylaw.



E. S. Chu, P.Eng.  
DIRECTOR ENGINEERING

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Copied to: City Manager  
Director Finance