



Please join the Roxbury Conservation Commission and attend the “Freedom Lawn Expo” scheduled for Saturday, April 10, 2010 from 1-3pm at Roxbury’s Town Hall. The Freedom Lawn Expo will present safe and affordable alternatives to pesticide and herbicide use, by incorporating organic land management techniques. Families are welcome.

The event will feature information on natural Lawn and Garden Care, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and surprising Health Findings associated with garden care chemicals.

Featured specialized speakers include:

- UConn Master Gardeners from the Coop Extension
- Ann Berman of Milford, CT Environmental Concerns Coalition - Milford’s original Freedom Lawn spokesperson
- Lisa Turoczi of Woodbury’s Earth Tones Design - native plants and water garden advise
- Roxbury/Bridgewater Garden Club members to answer landscaping questions
- Tom Braun, Aqua Environmental, Water Testing Consultant
- Donna Culbert, Newtown’s Health District Director - tick control and landscape options for tick prevention
- Roxbury’s Energy Task Force - offering information about the 20% by 2010 Campaign and updates to the town’s recycling program

The concept of the Freedom Lawn, those free of pesticide and herbicide applications, was developed by three Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies Scholars; Herbert Bormann, Diana Balmori and Gordon Geballe. They proposed a naturalistic approach to lawn maintenance allowing unrestricted growth of grasses, clover and other broad-leafed plants commonly regard as weeds. The program discourages the use of lawn fertilizers which give rise to ground and water pollution and contribute to serious health issues for organisms in contact with these treated lawns. A new documentary covering this emerging issue, “A Chemical Reaction” will be shown in continuum during the Expo.

http://www.pfzmedia.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=53



Additionally, experts from Roxbury’s Energy Task Force will also be on hand to explain convenient green energy initiatives and the #5 recycling program. Roxbury has committed to the “20% by 2010” program, with a goal of 20% of Roxbury households pledging a portion of their electrical energy to be derived from green sources. Currently 4% of households are enrolled. If the additional 16% goal is obtained, Roxbury will acquire a free solar panel for a town building.

A second Freedom Lawn Expo is planned in early June with a focus on Well and Watershed protection from pesticide and fertilizer seepage and Organic Produce / Community Supported Agriculture (CSA).