



Jenni McLeod
The Bee Collective
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SOUTH ARM TAS 7022
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11 February 2020

Dear Mayor

Re: Correspondence 3-Glyphosate Spraying in Clarence

On Thursday 6 and Friday 7 February, the Clarence City Council sprayed Glyphosate near the newly built skate park and along the walking track between the RSL and the shop at South Arm.

A community member notified me after council workers approached her and other mothers at the skate park to let them know they were about to spray a 'heavy duty weed killer' – this mother is also a beekeeper and said the weeds being sprayed were covered in yellow flowers and bees. The following day I saw workers driving a small vehicle down the RSL track spraying - no signs, no warnings, no dye. People walking their dogs or using their mobility scooters would have no idea what had just occurred on the track, while they rolled through it.

I contacted the council to enquire about what was being sprayed and spoke with Dennis Lovell who confirmed it was a Glyphosate Based Herbicide. I used the opportunity to let him know that weeds are bee forage and are particularly important especially given the terrible honey season we have had on the Eastern Shore this year. I also provided him with a briefing paper I recently put together in my role as a researcher and have enclosed a copy for you.

In the middle of this year, Australia is going to hear its first case against Monsanto regarding Glyphosate Based Herbicides <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-06-04/australias-first-roundup-lawsuit-filed/11176384> when this case proceeds, the community will be asking their councils and governments what they are doing to restrict use of this herbicide.

Therefore, I am contacting you. Would the Council consider making the South Arm Community Hub (oval, centre, skatepark etc) a spray free zone? It could be a trial site for steaming, or community could look after the weeding as a community led initiative (like the Opossum Bay Park). We could put a sign up and promote within the community and lead the way for other communities. This has the potential to showcase CCC as a leader in this space prior to the pending lawsuit – if you wait until the lawsuit you will miss this opportunity.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding this proposal.

Regards
Jenni McLeod
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