



TOWN OF BROOKFIELD

BROOKFIELD, CT 06804

To: Brookfield Residents
From: Brookfield Conservation Commission
Date: April 8, 2021
Re: Happy Landings Open Space

Spraying of the fields for knapweed at Happy Landings will take place today, Thursday, April 8, 2021.

The fields at Happy Landings contain knapweed, a weed that is poisonous to horses, if consumed, and is highly invasive. According to the State Wildlife Biologist, regardless of whether the fields are used for wildlife habitat or haying, this weed must be eradicated. To accomplish this, an herbicide (not a pesticide) will need to be applied and has been in previous years. It is estimated to take approx. 5 years to eradicate. The Conservation Commission permitted the herbicide application in accordance with the haying agreement and in compliance of all laws. The work will be performed by a reputable, licensed chemical application firm from Pennsylvania. The work will be performed by clearly-labeled trucks doing low ground spraying. The herbicides kill just weeds and will not kill any birds, bees or insects. The herbicides were a non-restricted use type which means, according to Connecticut law, that no postings are necessary because these herbicides are not harmful to people or animals; however, we will post the openings to Happy Landings next week as the spraying is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 9, 2019. We have the material data sheets for the herbicide and can make them available to anyone who is interested.

The Town of Brookfield and the Conservation Commission strive to balance the interests and needs of the natural environment as well as those of the residents of Brookfield. We are confident that in future years, the beautiful hay fields and operating windmills will make Happy Landings a special space for everyone to enjoy.

Thank you.