

Bayside Villages

Marginal Way Complaint File #1: Complaints

10/20/2016

My name is Maximum King, I work at Planet Dog on Marginal Way and I am a resident at Bayside Village. I am writing a complaint about Bayside Villages' refusal to respect my religious belief, as a Naturopathy, which is to not be exposed to poisons in my place of living; as they plan to spray toxic insecticide in my room, my furniture and apartment sometime next week. Yesterday, on October 19 we received a notice that explained that on Monday, October 24 starting at 8am they will be executing a six-week treatment of an invasive pest clean-out program with a newly hired pest company. My roommate, Jared Palmiter alerted me of his concerns regarding insecticide being sprayed throughout our apartment and how it goes against pretty much everything we believe in. He went and spoke with the property manager, Heidi Espy and explained his reason for not wanting this treatment in our apartment. The woman demonstrated Bayside's right to make decisions regarding pest control and how we have no say in this matter as we signed a lease saying that they can do pretty much whatever they want after giving us a notice. I was immediately alarmed by this as it is my religious belief to not be closely exposed to insecticide. I am a Naturopathy, I only eat organic food and I filter my water (with a Big Berkey) to minimize my exposure to environmental poisons. It is part of my Naturopathic belief system to avoid such treatments that involve being exposed to chemicals like **Piperonyl Butoxide, Pyrethrins and Pyrethroids**. Jared shared pieces of the conversation he had with Heidi, with me: He told me (as it said in the letter) that we supposed to:

- Remove all items from all kitchen or pantry shelves and food storage areas.
- Place all opened food items in the refrigerator or in sealed plastic bags or tubs. These sealed items may be placed on table tops & should be covered.
- Remove all items from medicine cabinets, storage cabinets & drawers.
- Place personal items, such as toothbrushes, hair brushes, cosmetics, toiletries, etc., in sealed plastic bags.
- Remove all items from the closet floor & shelving.
- Open drawers in dressers, nightstands, etc. Remove items from any cabinetry, entertainment centers, etc. Items may be placed on the bed during service.
- All people & animals (including birds & reptiles) should remain out of the treatment area(s) during and after treatment until all surfaces are dry; a minimum of 4 hours is advised.
- Cover aquariums/fish tanks and turn off their pumps prior to treatment; pumps should remain off at least 4 hours after treatment.
- Pet food dishes should be emptied, clean, and covered.
- Ventilate your residence before re-entry after treatment, especially if an odor is present.

Failure to follow these directions may affect any guarantee.

We are expecting pest control to be in your unit for approximately 30-45 minutes. Upon completion of the first treatment we ask that you remain out the unit for at least 4 hours.

He also shared other pieces of his conversation; like when Heidi said that we are supposed to be vacant from our apartment for 4 hours after treatment, but said that it is OK if Jared's cats are left inside during the treatment. I was quite upset about this, so I decided to go talk with the property manager myself. I had my other roommate, John Johnston accompany me for this chat as John also is against having toxic substances put in his living area. We went down to the office together and met with Heidi. I

asked if Heidi was in her office and was lied to by the girl working the front desk, then was quickly shewed in as she admitted she was in the office after all. I immediately felt discrimination from Heidi as John and I explained our case. We explained what we wanted, which was to be exempt from this pest treatment as we haven't had a pest problem in over a year, according to John who has lived in apartment 328C for the past 4 years. Heidi listened to us and quickly denied our request to not be included in the pest treatment. I was very adamant on not having poison be dispersed around my living quarters, in my food cabinets, around my room and inside of my personal furniture as Heidi illuminated that every corner of inside our clothing cabinets have to be sprayed with insecticide. She explained that this is not our decision to make because it is in our lease agreement for them to execute pest control whenever they deem necessary. She told us that Bayside Village has a \$20,000 contract with this new pest company and they need to satisfy the contract by dispersing these chemicals in every apartment in Bayside, even if there aren't any pest problems in the apartment. "I want them dead!" she said, "We payed \$20,000 to have them all exterminated." After arguing about this for 10 minutes she gave me a number to call if I had any questions or concerns about the treatment, so I took my leave. I called the pest control company and voiced my concern, so did Jared. When I talked to them I once again felt discriminatory treatment as the man I talked to quickly told me that this is safe and he would send me an email on the chemicals used if I texted him my email address. I texted him my email and shortly soon after received an email from Jeff Haines, Regional Sales Manager of Ehrlich Pest. The email said: Per request by both of you here are the products we will be using. Attached to the email was a PDF regarding the chemicals to be used during the treatment. The email also said: This e-mail together with any attachments is intended only for the recipient(s) named above. It may contain confidential and/or privileged information and express views or opinions that are those of the sender and not necessarily of the sender's organization. The disclosure, reproduction, distribution or other dissemination or use of this communication is strictly prohibited by anyone other than the intended recipient(s). If you are not a named recipient, please contact the sender and delete this e-mail from your system. I am not trying to start a battle, I'm just not ok with having toxic chemicals like **Piperonyl Butoxide** and **Pyrethrins** sprayed in my household which **PBO** (Piperonyl Butoxide) by blocking the my body's ability to form enzymes that defend against harmful toxins like pirethrins. Pyrethrins and pyrethroids interfere with the way that the nerves and brain function, there is evidence from animal studies that pyrethrins and pyrethroids might be capable of causing cancer in people. Piperonyl Butoxide (PBO), a highly toxic substance that causes a range of short- and long-term effects, including cancer and adverse impacts on liver function and the nervous system, is one of the most commonly used synergists in pesticide products. Synergists are chemicals added to pesticide formulations to enhance the toxicity of the active ingredients. The primary effect of long-term exposure to PBO in animals is an increase in liver and thyroid weight, liver and kidney damage, and a decrease in body weight. PBO is labeled as a group C carcinogen, a possible human carcinogen. PBO weakens the immune system by inhibiting lymphocyte response. Inhibiting lymphocyte response weakens the body's ability to defend against foreign invaders. Furthermore, by preventing the breakdown of toxic chemicals, PBO increases the damage they can do to the body. Data has shown that PBO alone interferes with enzymes that maintain homeostasis of sodium and calcium in the brain and nervous system, possibly affecting neural response. Additionally, it increases the neurotoxicity of other compounds, like Pyrethrins (another ingredient being used in the pest treatment that's about to take place). When PBO is combined with pyrethrins or other insecticides, the toxic effects of the chemicals cannot simply be added together. The effects are multiplicative. Exposure to an insecticidal synergist like PBO may make a person temporarily vulnerable to a variety of toxic insults that could otherwise be

tolerated. I have become a Naturopath over the past few years because of problems with my back and not finding solution in conventional health care, but applying natural forces to restore my body's recuperative facilities through diet, exercise and ridding the body of toxins. This is a **Religious Belief** for me to not be exposed to chemicals such as **PBO** and **Pyrethrins**, it is my religious right to refuse being subjected to these two chemicals. My roommates, Jared Palmiter and John Johnston also follow this belief system and do not want to be subjected to these chemicals. Furthermore, we were instructed to place all of our belongings in plastic bags to prevent absorption of these to toxic substances. After doing a little research I discovered that normal zip-lock bags and garbage bags will not effectively shield my belongings from being exposed to these substances. I also learned that is the responsibility of the pest control company to provide me with non-porous, non-absorbent bags to shield our belongings. I was not made aware of this by Heidi Espy or the man I talked to at Ehrlich Pest. If they are meaning to spray my home with toxic substances, I believe they have to legally provide me with these bags and even assist in getting the place ready for spraying. I am writing to protest this treatment as I do not want to be subjugated to unhealthful and possibly unlawful treatment. Thank you.

"Public Health Statement for Pyrethrins and Pyrethroids." *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 21 Jan. 2015. Web. 21 Oct. 2016.

By Blocking the Bugs' Ability to Form Those Enzymes. In Short, with PBOs the Poor Little Buggers Are Rendered Defenseless. "Piperonyl Butoxide: The Trojan Horse of Pesticides." *The Green Grok RSS*. N.p., 10 Dec. 2012. Web. 21 Oct. 2016.

<https://www.beyondpesticides.org/assets/media/documents/pesticides/factsheets/Piperonyl%20Butoxide.pdf>

<https://bastyr.edu/academics/areas-study/study-naturopathic-medicine/about-naturopathic-medicine>