

Dear _____,

Responsible property owners have been replacing their lawns and parkways with drought tolerant, native plants and other materials, either wholly, or in part, such as gravel, wood chips, stones, artificial turf, or resort to spraying multiple applications of ROUNDUP®. LA City of parkways regulations need to be updated to keep the public right of way safe for pedestrians, children and pets.

These are our concerns:

- Gravel does not stay where it is placed. It is easily transferred from the parkway area onto the sidewalks and streets. This poses a hazard for pedestrians.
- Wood Chips, although not as dangerous as gravel, also has the challenge of being transferred to the public right of way and poses an obstacle to pedestrians.
- Drought tolerant plants are great however, their needs to be regulation on what types of plants are permitted. People use the parkways to get to and from their cars, walk their pets, and children often walk on the parkway instead of the sidewalk. Cactus with spiky growths are dangerous and should not be allowed to be planted in the parkways. There is a very popular succulent that is called Fire Stick Succulent or Pencil Succulent (Proper name: Euphorbia tirucalli)

Are fire stick succulents poisonous?

“**Firestick succulent**”. When a piece is broken off the milky substance is extremely acidic and toxic to humans, dogs, and cats. The pencil cactus will cause immediate pain when bitten into which serves as a deterrent for large ingestions of the **plant**. ... The pencil cactus, known as Euphorbia tirucalli, is **toxic** to humans and dogs worldwide as it contains a milky substance capable of causing serious gastrointestinal, ocular, and dermal injury. There is the additional concern that the sticky sap of the African milk bush may be an important **cause** of Burkitt's lymphoma - the most common childhood **cancer** in much of Africa. The milk bush (**Euphorbia tirucalli**) is a tropical **plant** that grows in many parts of Africa and in the Amazon rainforest of South America and in California.

- ROUNDUP® contains Glyphosate. Glyphosate has been linked to Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Multiple lawsuits have been won against the Bayer who bought ROUNDUP® from Monsanto.

It was announced in March 2019 that Los Angeles County Bans Use of Roundup Weed Killer on County property. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors ordered a moratorium on Monsanto's Roundup weed killer, citing a need for more research into its health effects. Its use is banned in or near playgrounds and schools in cities across California as well as in other states and countries. The University of California has banned the use of the Glyphosate Herbicide on all of their properties.

