

BAN CHLORPYRIFOS

in MARYLAND

SB 500/HB 116

Chlorpyrifos (chlor-pyr-i-fos) is a toxic, nerve agent pesticide proven to cause brain damage in children and known to harm the environment and wildlife. It is found in air and water—and people's bodies. People come in contact with the chemical through residues on food, drinking water contamination and toxic drift from pesticide application.

In 2015, after extensive study, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency scientists recommended that the pesticide be banned for all uses, due to the high risk of children's exposure in utero or during critical periods of growth and to the link between chlorpyrifos exposure and autism, ADHD and other neurodevelopmental issues.

Prenatal exposures to this chemical are associated with reduced IQ, loss of working memory, attention deficit disorders and delayed motor development. Whenever chlorpyrifos is sprayed, it can cause immediate and long-term health harms to kids, farmers, farmworkers and others who are exposed.

Despite this, Scott Pruitt—the head of the EPA appointed by President Trump—overrode the recommendations of EPA scientists and reversed the decision to ban chlorpyrifos.

This new direction turns a blind eye to science, and when it comes to dangerous products like chlorpyrifos, it puts us all at risk.

There are plenty of far safer pesticide alternatives, and the use of chlorpyrifos among Maryland farmers already minimal, according to the Maryland Department of Agriculture.

THE SCIENCE IS CLEAR

Chlorpyrifos is unsafe, and babies, children and pregnant women are especially vulnerable.

If we can't rely on the EPA to protect us, Maryland must act.



**THE DANGERS OF
CHLORPYRIFOS EXPOSURE
FOR BABIES, CHILDREN AND
PREGNANT WOMEN¹**

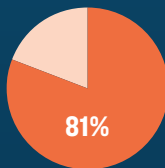
- Preterm birth
- Low birth weight
- Congenital abnormalities
- Asthma
- Pediatric cancers
- Neurobehavioral and cognitive deficits
- Permanent neurological damage

¹https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/01/opinion/pesticide-epa.html?_r=1

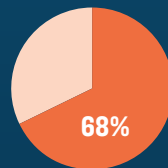
Marylanders of all political stripes overwhelmingly support banning chlorpyrifos in our state.



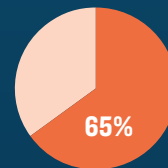
74%
MARYLAND
VOTERS
**FAVOR BANNING
CHLORPYRIFOS**



Democrats



Republicans



Independents

Source:
Opinionworks
survey of 850
Md. registered
voters, October
25–November
7, 2017, with a
potential margin
of error of ±3.3%

TAKE ACTION TODAY!

SB 500/HB 116 would prohibit the use of chlorpyrifos—and other insecticides containing chlorpyrifos—in the state beginning on January 1, 2019. Farmers would not be prohibited from using other pesticides and insecticides.

Sign up for our action alerts here:
<https://tinyurl.com/MPNsign>.

**We must protect
our state.**

**Ban the use of
chlorpyrifos
in Maryland!**

**SMART on
PESTICIDES
maryland**

*For Safe Water
& Healthy Kids*

The Smart on Pesticides Maryland coalition, spearheaded by the Maryland Pesticide Education Network, works to protect Marylanders and the natural systems we depend upon from the toxic impacts of pesticides. The coalition includes 80 organizations, and institutions representing communities, businesses, health care providers, farmers, environmentalists, waterkeepers, interfaith congregants as well as environmental justice, public health and wildlife advocates.

www.smartonpesticides.org