Greetings!

Thanks to all of you who contacted your legislators and urged them to support Md SB500/HB116—the bill banning the brain-harming pesticide chlorpyrifos.

We had a strong start—in the MD Senate, the bill was approved in committee and headed quickly toward a floor vote. At the same time in the House, it appeared certain the bill would by approved in committee and go to a floor vote.

However, the possibility of the ban also galvanized opponents—DOW Chemical, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), MD Farm Bureau and the MD Grain Producers—who claimed they need to use this pesticide, despite clear evidence that safer products exist. Sadly, we were just a few votes short for bill passage in the Senate.

Our work for 2019 begins now...

Are you a golfer? Ironically, the golf course lobby group (GCSAA) is promoting "Blue-Out Day for Autism Awareness" event in April, even though they just opposed a bill banning a pesticide confirmed to cause autism! You can help us: Ask your golf course management if, 1) they use chlorpyrifos for blue grass weevil; 2) if not, what do they use instead? 3) are they planning an April fundraising day for ELS for Autism, and are they aware GCSAA opposed the Maryland chlorpyrifos ban bill? 4) if appropriate, share your concerns with them. Here's a link to an article in their magazine noting their need to find alternatives to chlorpyrifos (see paragraph 16 on that page, under "Chemical management"). And please email us at info@mdpestnet.org to tell us what you found out from your golf course.
- At Who Gives A Crap, toilet paper is made from bamboo - not trees, delivered to your door, and they donate 50% of their profits to build toilets for those in need in developing countries. Environmentally-friendly, low-priced toilet paper!

- Check out EWG’s tips for healthy cleaning. All too often registered pesticides such as chlorine and triclosan are found in cleaning products. Always best to choose organic products!

- Looking for natural or organic women’s cosmetic brands? Look here and here.

For more Go Organic tips and resources, visit the Go Organic website.

OTHER NEWS & VIEWS

- Internationally acclaimed public health expert Dr Philip Landrigan's new book provides essential advice on children & environmental toxics (Dr. Landrigan submitted testimony in support of the Md chlorpyrifos ban bill). Read more.
- Wildflowers are being tested on English farms as a possible pest preventative, reducing need for toxic chemical pesticides. Read more.

- Major new study shows that 94% of farms would lose no production if they cut back their use of pesticides, and two-fifths of these would actually produce more. However, a large proportion of advice to farmers is provided by the pesticide industry. Read more.

- Pesticides are a health risk to America's national symbol, the bald eagle. Read more.

Help the Maryland Pesticide Education Network continue to protect our babies, bees and the Bay.

DONATE

POLLINATOR/BEE BUZZ
- Important new study proves bee-killing pesticides do nothing to improve crop yields & that field rotation and planting naturally resistant varieties are more effective against bugs. Read more.

- The Saving America’s Pollinators Act is being reintroduced into congress. Read more.

- eCommerce giant Amazon is one of many retailers that sell neonic pesticide products and neonic-treated plants. But as the largest online retailer in the U.S., Amazon can use its influence to make a big difference in the fight to save bees. Urge Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos to help save bees by removing neonic products and neonic-treated plants from Amazon’s website!

TIPS FOR HEALTHY LIVING

- How to get more out of your kitchen stash: why you can worry less about the date labels on your food. Read more.

- Food that magically regrows itself from kitchen scraps. Read more.

- SynBio’s GMO Database lets you search by product name to find out whether or not it contains GMOs.
Please help us continue to protect our Babies, Bees and the Bay.

DONATE

YOUR AMAZON SMILE PURCHASES ALSO SUPPORT OUR WORK

We appreciate your feedback on our monthly newsletter!: info@mdpestnet.org

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Our mailing address is:
Maryland Pesticide Education Network
1209 N. Calvert St.
Baltimore, MD 21202
USA