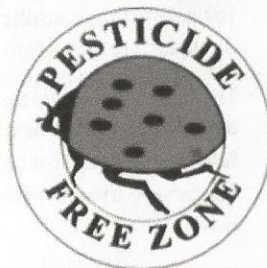


SWITCH: Be a Different Kind of GREEN

With all the safe, effective alternatives available, chemical lawn pesticides just aren't worth the risk. Going pesticide free can make a big difference—to the health of your family, community, and the environment. So SWITCH! Visit our website at www.pesticidefreenc.org for details, or call a knowledgeable landscape provider and tell them you want organic solutions.

MORE RESOURCES

Pesticide-Free New Canaan
www.pesticidefreenc.org
Beyond Pesticides
beyondpesticides.org
Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA)
organiclandcare.net

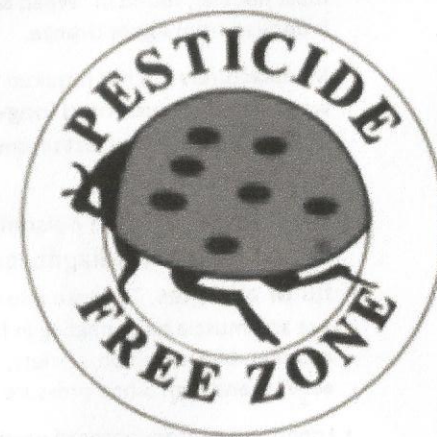


PESTICIDE-FREE NEW CANAAN

www.pesticidefreenc.org
E-mail: pesticidefreencanacan@yahoo.com

PESTICIDE-FREE NEW CANAAN

The Facts About Chemical Lawn Pesticides



www.pesticidefreenc.org

The Facts About Chemical Lawn Pesticides

GENERAL

- The EPA has **no testing program for human health effects of pesticides**. It relies on the health and safety data of manufacturers.
- Manufacturers are **not required to disclose all of the ingredients** in their pesticides.
- According to the EPA, **95% of the pesticides used on lawns are possible/probable carcinogens**. One of the most popular, found in "Weed & Feed", is derived from Agent Orange.
- Manufacturers are not required to issue warnings about **potential long-term or chronic health effects** from a pesticide's active ingredients.
- Symptoms of **pesticide poisoning can be commonly misdiagnosed as flu or allergies**. They can also include eye and muscle pain, tingling in hands and feet, blurred vision, anxiety, hyperactivity, and high blood pressure.
- Long-term consequences of pesticide exposure include **depression, lowered fertility and miscarriage, ADHD, autism spectrum disorders, neurological damage, liver and kidney dysfunction, and cancer**.
- A University of Iowa study found **abnormally high rates of brain, large intestine, and prostate cancer** in golf course superintendents.

- Homeowners use up to **ten times as much pesticide per acre** than farmers.
- Dogs exposed to pesticide-treated grass have **increased risks of bladder cancer and lymphoma**, from two to seven times respectively.
- Children are at the **highest risk from exposure to lawn pesticides**.

CHILDREN

- The greatest danger from lawn pesticides comes from **inhaling residues and absorbing them through the skin**.
- Children take in **more toxins pound for pound** than adults. The placenta does not protect a fetus from exposure.
- The nervous, respiratory, reproductive, and immune systems of children are not fully developed, so **early exposure can adversely affect normal development**.
- The National Cancer Institute found that **children develop leukemia six times more often when regularly exposed to pesticides**.
- Exposure before the age of one is linked to a **fourfold increase in asthma**.
- According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, evidence shows links between early life exposure to pesticides and **pediatric cancers, decreased**

cognitive function, and behavioral problems.

- The National Institute of Health found that **persistent exposure to low doses of pesticides can cause serious inherited effects**.

THE NATURAL WORLD

- Residential pesticide use accounts for the **majority of wildlife poisonings** reported to the EPA each year.
- **67 million birds are killed every year** by pesticides.
- Some pesticides are **lethal to bees**, and others can inhibit tasks such as olfactory learning, foraging, and reproduction, thereby affecting hive survival.
- Runoff from urban lawn pesticides **contaminates local watersheds** and stresses municipal water treatment.
- Studies of major rivers and streams have found that **90% of fish, 100% of surface water samples, and 33% of major aquifers contain one or more pesticides at detectable levels**. Drinking water is also widely contaminated.
- Chemical pesticides deliver a "quick fix," but they **deplete the soil** in the process, further exacerbating the problems that led to weeds and pests in the first place.