

## Establish Funding for a Pesticide Reporting Database in 2014

Pesticides pose a **serious risk** to our health, to the Chesapeake Bay and local waterways, and to wildlife – particularly to honeybees – but researchers lack the information they need about pesticide use.

Scientists say that professional pesticide applicators, including farmers and lawn care companies, **need to make their pesticide use information available** to public health and environmental researchers.

This way, experts will have the data they need to determine if and when pesticides are affecting our health, our waters, and our environment.

Once the experts have more information about when and where pesticides are used, we'll **be better able to protect our families, our wildlife, and our waterways** – including the Chesapeake Bay – from pesticides.

A January 2014 report from The Maryland Pesticide Reporting and Information Workgroup found “**there are data gaps** about pesticide use as indicated by scientists and public health experts to monitor public and environmental exposures.”



### Please Pass HB 621 / SB 700!

- Establishes a dedicated fund for a pesticide reporting database through a modest \$10 increase on the annual registration fee paid by pesticide chemical manufacturers (like Dow, Monsanto, and Bayer).
- This would be a **significant first step** toward a comprehensive mandatory reporting pesticide use database.
- Out of 14 states surveyed, Maryland had the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest registration fee (\$100/product). Our registration fee is lower than neighboring Chesapeake Bay watershed states of Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia.
- Based on a survey of product costs and registration fees, and the fact that products can be bought for uniform costs across the country, it would be practically impossible for pesticide manufacturers to pass costs onto consumers.
- Would generate revenue to collect, analyze, and report pesticide use data.

The [Smart on Pesticides Maryland](#) – For Safe Water & Healthy Kids campaign is a coalition of concerned Maryland citizens and organizations working for better protections to keep our families, our waterways and our wildlife safe from pesticides, including the creating of a centralized, online pesticide use reporting database.

The coalition includes: Assateague Coastal Trust Central Maryland Beekeepers, Chesapeake BaySavers, Clean Water Action, Farmworker Justice, Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future, Maryland Environmental Health Network, Maryland Hospitals for a Healthy Environment, Maryland League of Conservation Voters, Maryland League of Women Voters, Maryland Nurses Association, Maryland Organic Food and Farming Association, Maryland Pesticide Network, Maryland Public Interest Research Group, Sierra Club – Maryland Chapter, West/Rhode Riverkeeper