

## **Q&A from Pesticides & the Chesapeake Bay Conference**

### **November 18, 2020 – Day 1 Session**

*Some questions were answered live and those answered below were typed in by presenters.*

**Asker:** Alexis Baden-Mayer

**Question:** The American Medical Association recently recognized racism as a threat to public health. This sounds encouraging. What would you encourage public health advocates to do about environmental injustice and greater exposure to pesticides among people of color?

**Answer:** Live answered

**Asker:** Mary Travaglini

**Question:** Sacoby, how would you suggest we could get MDA to change their laws?

**Answer:** We need to do more cumulative risk assessments on pesticides and work with advocacy groups to translate this to policy options that can be championed by delegates. Talk about alternatives, less toxic pesticides and educate legislators in the state so they will develop new bills that can help ban, reduce, and better track pesticides.

**Asker:** Vontasha Simms

**Question:** What Testing are you doing in Charles County Md

**Answer:** We have not done a lot in Charles. A little engagement with STEAM Onward.

**Asker:** Arthur Milholland

**Question:** What is "BMP"?

**Answer:** Best management practice. These are the stormwater and agricultural installations that are designed to reduce stormwater runoff and pollution.

**Asker:** Vontasha Simms

**Question:** What do you think about Environmental Genocide?

**Answer:** Live answered

**Asker:** Kennedy P

**Question:** Are pesticides historically responsible to the quail population collapse?

**Answer:** Not sure. That's not my area. I focus more on the human health side, but it would be interesting to perform comparative analysis of pesticide exposure for quails and humans

**Asker:** Ana Rule

**Question:** Are you aware of a citizen science project to evaluate pesticide use and to train community members on the dangers of pesticide use and help reduce exposure?

**Answer:** Live answered

**Asker:** Bill

**Question:** the motto "if it weren't safe, they wouldn't sell it" is pervasive in our society especially when it comes to mosquito spraying...how should we address this insanity?

**Answer:** Great question. We need to focus more on precautionary principle and public health. Also, a big campaign to increase scientific and environmental health literacy on pesticides and alternatives

**Asker:** Andy Fellows

**Question:** Is the Prince George's County Council interested in supporting the Environmental Justice Action Plan?

**Answer:** Live answered

**Asker:** Anonymous Attendee

**Question:** I imagine that population density is correlated to pesticide use where issues are concentrated. Rodents, scavengers, insects, thrive in dense populations due to the many resources available to them. What alternatives can be used and still be cost effective to implement? What are solutions?

**Answer:** Integrated Pest Management, zero waste initiatives

**Asker:** Charles Conklin

**Question:** What about PFAS? Dupont?

**Answer:** Live answered

**Asker:** Vontasha Simms

**Question:** I call it Environmental Genocide, what does he think?

**Answer:** Live answered

**Asker:** Vontasha Simms

**Question:** Charles County has an Incinerator, and Brandywine has nearly 5 Power Plants, what are you doing to Stop MattaWoman Energy from Building another plant?

**Answer:** Yes, important issue. BTB Coalition is leading the way in this fight. They submitted an administrative complaint.

**Asker:** Charles Conklin

**Question:** Has there been any cost benefit studies done?

**Answer:** PFAS is an issue of concern for us in Maryland because of its use by our military bases. NEJAC has begun to look at PFAS. Also, NAS through the EHMI is looking at PFAS. I am not sure about any cost benefit studies on PFAS

**Asker:** Arthur Milholland

**Question:** Why does our legislature resist banning Chlorpyrifos?

**Answer:** I am not sure. It may be some lobbying by the industry

**Asker:** Anonymous Attendee

**Question:** In grad school, I was involved in a project to "green" the Carroll-Sandtown neighborhood in west Baltimore City. The residents weren't concerned about environmental issues. Their top worries were crime, drugs, shootings. The residents didn't want trees and shrubs since drug dealers used them to store the drugs. There are so many social issues that need to be resolved before the residents begin to look at "greening" their environment.

**Answer:** Need to reframe environmental issues as social issues. Focus on social, economic, environmental, and health justice. Go back to my 3-legged stool for environmental justice. The conversation must be justice and equity centered. We need to focus on investing in communities to address structural poverty and segregation, which will help address the social environment issues you mentioned.

**Asker:** Vontasha Simms

**Question:** What was the Legislation that Dr. Wilson is introducing?

**Answer:** Cumulative impacts bill is of interest. We need pesticide ban legislation

**Asker:** Vontasha Simms

**Question:** How can my Non-Profit be a part of this Workgroup?

**Answer:** Live answered

**Asker:** Sally Hornor

**Question:** Q for Greg Allen: About what percentage of toxic organic compounds are bound to sediments and is that percentage consistent throughout the watershed?

**Answer:** Live answered

**Asker:** Lisa

**Question:** If food is labeled as organic, does the facility NOT use quaternary ammonium compound-based disinfectants, since those are classified as pesticides? I know the quat residue can transfer to food, and therefore ingested. Therefore, the previously organically grown/fed food would now have pesticides...

**Answer:** Live answered

**Asker:** Luke Goembel

**Question:** Does your research take into account the rapid introduction of pesticides due to days of rain, etc., that might increase the concentration of given pesticides for a certain amount of time, and thereby increase it enough to be the 'lethal dose' for organism?

**Answer:** Live answered

**Asker:** Lorne Garrettson

**Question:** Are there maps that show the concentration of children in an area that can be used like maps of racial make-up of the community to document the potential exposure of toxins to children?

**Answer:** Live answered