

# It's Time to BAN CHLORPYRIFOS in Maryland (HB 229/SB 300)

## THIS BAN WOULD PROHIBIT THE USE OF CHLORPYRIFOS

It would also ban other insecticides containing chlorpyrifos in the state. Numerous alternatives exist: farmers, golf courses and land care professionals are not prohibited from using other pesticides and insecticides.

Maryland must protect Maryland—our children's health cannot wait.

IT'S TIME TO BAN CHLORPYRIFOS.

VOTE  
YES  
HB 229/SB 300

**Chlorpyrifos (chlor-pyr-i-fos) is a toxic, nerve agent pesticide that has been found to damage children's brain development, contaminate waterways and injure wildlife.**

Chlorpyrifos is found in the air and water—and in people's bodies. It is widely used in the production of fruits, vegetables, nuts and other conventionally grown crops, including many kid favorites like apples, peaches, grapes and strawberries. Human exposure takes place when people consume contaminated food and drinking water, touch treated surfaces or breathe the air near treated fields. This volatile chemical can also be brought home from golf courses and farm fields through residues on clothing.

After extensive study, **EPA scientists confirmed that all uses of chlorpyrifos result in unsafe levels of exposure and recommended that the pesticide be banned.** The agency cited the high risk of children's exposure in utero or during critical periods of growth and to the link between chlorpyrifos exposure and autism, childhood cancers, ADHD and other neurodevelopmental issues.

Unfortunately, the Trump Administration overrode the recommendations of EPA's own scientists to ban the use of chlorpyrifos. **There was no scientific basis for this decision—it was a blatant political move to satisfy the chemical industry.** See detailed timeline on reverse.

Banning chlorpyrifos in Maryland would protect our residents—particularly babies, children, pregnant women and farmworkers. It would also protect the Chesapeake Bay and wildlife. Taking action at the state level would save us from having to wait for the EPA, while they continue to delay and battle the issue in court. Many safe and effective alternatives exist for all Maryland pests, including the spotted lanternfly.

### Chlorpyrifos is linked to:

Preterm birth

Low birth weight

Congenital abnormalities

Pediatric cancers

Neurobehavioral and cognitive deficits

Asthma

Permanent neurological damage

Toxic effects to the Chesapeake Bay, aquatic life, bees and other pollinators and 97% of all federally endangered or threatened species, including over 100 bird species.

# TIMELINE OF ACTION ON CHLORPYRIFOS

2000

Dow Chemical and other manufacturers stop home uses of chlorpyrifos due to children's risk.

DECEMBER  
2014

EPA's *Revised Human Health Risk Assessment for Chlorpyrifos* acknowledges extensive body of peer-reviewed science correlating chlorpyrifos exposure with brain damage in children, even at low exposure.

NOVEMBER  
2015

EPA proposes to ban chlorpyrifos for agricultural uses.

NOVEMBER  
2016

EPA releases second revised human health risk assessment with additional scientific data and reaffirms that chlorpyrifos should be banned for agricultural uses.

MARCH 29  
2017

In a reversal, the new EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt announces the agency will not finalize the chlorpyrifos ban.

AUGUST 9  
2018

The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals rules against EPA's decision to overturn the proposed chlorpyrifos ban and directs the agency to cancel all registrations for chlorpyrifos within 60 days.

SEPTEMBER 24  
2018

Trump Administration files appeal of the Court's decision.

APRIL 19  
2019

After a rehearing, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals resolves the EPA has 90 days to decide whether to allow the usage of chlorpyrifos.

JULY 18  
2019

The EPA announces it will not ban chlorpyrifos.

AUGUST 7  
2019

Maryland joins six other states in suing the EPA and its administrator for not banning chlorpyrifos. Since then, more states have continued to join the suit.



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 more than 100 organizations, and institutions representing communities, businesses, health care providers, farmers, environmentalists, waterkeepers, interfaith congregants as well as environmental justice, public health and wildlife advocates.

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