

CHLORPYRIFOS HARMS

Children, Waterways & Wildlife

#BanChlorpyrifos

Its time to ban Chlorpyrifos, pass HB 229 / SB 300

“EPA has no basis to allow continued use of chlorpyrifos, and its insistence in doing so puts all children at risk.”¹

—AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

Chlorpyrifos is a toxic, nerve agent pesticide that has been found to damage children’s brain development, contaminate waterways and injure wildlife.

After years of study, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency concluded that **all uses of chlorpyrifos result in unsafe levels of exposure** and was set to ban it. **Unfortunately, the Trump Administration reversed that decision, putting Marylanders’ health and our environment at great risk.**

MARYLAND MUST PROTECT MARYLAND—OUR CHILDREN’S HEALTH CANNOT WAIT.

It’s time to **BAN**
CHLORPYRIFOS!

HARM TO CHILDREN

Children have a high risk of exposure in utero or during critical periods of growth.



Chlorpyrifos is linked to **autism, ADHD and other neurodevelopmental issues.**²

Children ages 1–2 can be exposed to levels that are



140 TIMES WHAT EPA HAD PREVIOUSLY DEEMED “SAFE.”⁴

Exposure is associated with adverse birth and developmental outcomes, including preterm birth, low birth weight, congenital abnormalities, pediatric cancers, neurobehavioral and cognitive deficits, asthma and permanent neurological damage.³

Widely applied in the production of fruits, vegetables, nuts and other conventionally grown crops, including many kid favorites like apples, peaches, grapes and strawberries.⁵



HARM TO FARM WORKERS AND FARM COMMUNITIES

Pesticide drift continues at toxic levels

300



FEET FROM THE FIELD'S EDGE.⁶

All workers who mix and apply chlorpyrifos are exposed to elevated levels **even with maximum personal protective equipment and engineering controls.**⁷



Just a month after EPA reversed the decision to ban chlorpyrifos, **it poisoned a dozen farm workers in California.**⁸ Chlorpyrifos is found at unsafe levels in the air at schools, homes and communities in agricultural areas.⁹

HARM TO BAY AND AQUATIC LIFE

A Chesapeake Bay Program report found that chlorpyrifos ranks among the

TOP 5

INDIVIDUAL TOXINS OF CONCERN.¹⁰



Atlantic sturgeon, which are listed as **endangered**, are also at high risk of harm from exposure to chlorpyrifos.¹¹

Chlorpyrifos toxicology studies suggest behavioral, reproductive and endocrine **disruption to all aquatic arthropods**, such as crabs, especially those in close proximity to chlorpyrifos runoff.¹²



HARM TO BEES AND OTHER POLLINATORS



Second only to neonicotinoids as the **most harmful pesticide to bees.**¹³

Causes **colony threatening brain damage to honeybees**, even at sub-lethal concentrations.¹⁴

SOURCES

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- 2 Environmental Protection Agency, Chlorpyrifos Revised Human Health Risk Assessment (2016): <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2015-0653-0454>
- 3 Fernando Stein, President, American Academy of Pediatrics: https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/01/opinion/pesticide-epa.html?_r=0
- 4 Environmental Protection Agency, Chlorpyrifos Revised Human Health Risk Assessment (2016): <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2015-0653-0454>
- 5 American Bird Conservancy: <https://abcbirds.org/dangerous-chemical-ban/>
- 6 United Farm Workers: <https://ufw.org/epa-refuses-ban-pesticide-linked-poisonings-damage-childrens-brains/>
- 7 Natural Resources Defense Council: <https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/epa-proposal-on-chlorpyrifos-tolerance-comments-20170117.pdf>
- 8 "Trump's EPA Greenlights a Nasty Chemical. A Month Later, It Poisons a Bunch of Farmworkers." Tom Philpott, Mother Jones: <https://www.motherjones.com/environment/2017/05/california-farm-workers-just-got-poisoned-nasty-pesticide-greenlighted-trump/>
- 9 Environmental Protection Agency: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticides/updated-human-health-risk-analyses-chlorpyrifos>
- 10 Chesapeake Bay Program: https://www.chesapeakebay.net/documents/Prioritized_Chesapeake_Bay_Organic_Toxics_of_Concern_Method_and_Assessment_2006.pdf
- 11 National Marine Fisheries Service: <https://repository.library.noaa.gov/view/noaa/16997>
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- 13 Pesticide Residues and Bees – A Risk Assessment", Sanchez-Bayo and Goka, PLOS ONE, 2014: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0094482>
- 14 Measurements of Chlorpyrifos Levels in Forager Bees and Comparison with Levels that Disrupt Honey Bee Odor-Mediated Learning Under Laboratory Conditions", Journal of Chemical Ecology, 2016. See <https://phys.org/news/2016-03-bees-dumb-ingesting-tiny-doses.html>

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.

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE LEGISLATIVE UPDATES AT SmartOnPesticides.org