



PesticideSmart News: MD Pollinator Habitat Bill Passes + More News & Tips!

May 2017 Newsletter

Greetings!

Great News! The Pollinator Habitat Plans - Plan Contents - Requirements and Prohibition bill (*SB 386/HB 830, sponsored by Senator Shirley Nathan-Pulliam and Delegate Anne Healey*) **passed the 2017 Maryland General Assembly with strong bipartisan support.** We expect the bill will become law before the end of this month. This ground-breaking law will ensure that pollinator habitat planted on state land that is overseen by three state agencies must be free of pollinator-harming neonicotinoid (neonic)–treated plants and seeds, neonic applications and any pesticide labeled toxic to bees. Keeping state pollinator habitat free of harmful pesticides will help protect our bees, food supply and the environment.



Once again, Maryland leads the nation on pollinator-protecting state laws. But there is more for us all to do.

In this month's newsletter, find out about how you can fight climate change in your own backyard, how to protect your family from mosquitoes and the pesticides used for mosquito control, and how to make your backyard/deck pollinator-friendly by planting neonic-free plants and seeds. You can also read two significant studies that underscore the myth of needing pesticides to feed the world, as well as the latest research on health impacts of widely used herbicides and the EPA's latest assault on protecting children from a pesticide the agency itself claimed it hinders the development of children's brains.

We appreciate your feedback on our monthly newsletter!: info@mdpestnet.org

Take Action - Go Organic!



According to researchers at the Rodale Institute, **your organic gardens can help fight climate change**. Organic soils trap atmospheric carbon dioxide, a major greenhouse gas, and convert it to carbon, a key component of healthy soil. [Read more](#).

Eating organic can also help prevent weight gain! Consumers of organic food are more likely to have a lower body mass index than people that don't eat organic. [Read more](#).



Organic soil-based farming has enormous benefits for human and environmental life. [Learn more from this video](#).

Managing The 2017 Mosquito Season



Did you know **that mosquitoes can gather in at least 10 different types of places in and around your home**? Want to know how to manage mosquito breeding sites around your home without pesticides and which organic repellents are most effective? [Check out our latest fact sheet for this season!](#)

Please support our work on protecting our Babies, Bees & the Bay:
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Bee Buzz

Biologists at UC San Diego have provided the first evidence that **a widely used pesticide can significantly impair the ability of otherwise healthy honey bees to fly**. [Read more.](#)



Check out our Nurseries Directory for suppliers who sell neonic-free plants and seeds. [Read more.](#)

Pesticide News

Major new peer-reviewed scientific study: **Farms could slash pesticide use while producing as much food**. [Read more.](#)

This fascinating story from a pesticide industry publication reveals **the growing ineffectiveness of major herbicides**. [Read more.](#)



Three environmental organizations have asked a federal appeals court to **force the EPA to ban a widely used pesticide linked to brain damage in children**. [Read more.](#)

A new meta-analysis suggests that **people who are exposed to pesticides may face an increased risk of liver cancer.** [Read more.](#)

The weed killer Atrazine is hazardous to your health. [Read more.](#)



Roundup's toxic chemical, glyphosate, was found in 100% of California wines tested in a recent study. [Read more.](#)

Tips for Healthy Living

Ranking the best eco-friendly diapers. [Read more.](#)

Weird things organic gardeners do that actually work. [Read more.](#)



Don't toss out food scraps! You can grow and re-grow these vegetables over and over. [Read more.](#)

And often-discarded parts of these fruits and vegetables are actually edible and delicious! [Read more.](#)

Please help us continue to protect our Babies, Bees and the Bay.

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