



PesticideSmart News

November 2017 Newsletter

Greetings and Happy Thanksgiving Month!

This month, we'll show you how you can make a difference by buying an organic turkey, and the action you can take today to help reduce obstacles that farmers face when transitioning to organic. We'll also examine the tea and coffee we drink, and ice cream we eat - are they safe, or toxic?

While this month's news and research continue to alarm, there are also articles about unemployed coal miners turning to beekeeping, Maryland consumers impacting organic sales, the best and worst cleaning products, and the best toxic-free winter blankets you can wrap yourselves in.

TAKE ACTION!

Urge your representative to stand up for the health of your family and our planet by supporting the Homegrown Organic Act of 2017! Modest changes called for in this House of Representatives bill (H.R. 3637) will make a difference in reducing America's reliance on organic (sometimes questionable) imports by **making it easier for our farmers and ranchers to meet the growing demand for organic food here at home.** [Click here to contact your Representative](#) and ask them to support HR3380.



GO ORGANIC!

Is It Organic?



Popular **tea bags to avoid** that contain significant amounts of toxic pesticides- **some of the brands will surprise you!** [Read more.](#)

Your Morning Joe - did you know that many **harmful chemicals banned in the U.S. are still widely used in other countries to grow the coffee beans you drink?** With so many labels to choose from, how do we know which is best? [Read more.](#)



Can we trust organic food from other countries? [Read more.](#)

Consumers Making A Difference

Organic sales continue to climb in Maryland!
[Read more.](#)

The 6 Coziest Organic Blankets, Sheets, And Pillows You Can Buy: Your bed is where you sleep and snuggle. Keep it toxin-free. [Read more.](#)





Consumer Reports on **why you should buy an organic turkey this Thanksgiving**. [Read more.](#)

Organic apples have **more antioxidants, less toxic chemicals, and taste better**. [Read more.](#)

THANK YOU!

Thank you MOMs Organic Market, Cottingham Farm, KW Lawn and Landscaping, and Fair Farms for sponsoring the 11th annual **Pesticides and the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Project Conference**. The conference sponsors are exemplary leaders dedicated to advancing a healthier, less-toxic world.



Attendees were inspired by nationally renowned presenters, Dr. Christine Nichols (Senior scientist at the Rodale Institute), Dr. Vicki Blazer (Fish pathologist at USGS), Jay Feldman (Executive Director of Beyond Pesticides), and Betsy Nicholas (Executive Director of Waterkeepers Chesapeake). Presenters addressed reducing pesticide runoff to protect the Bay, dealing with the challenges the current US EPA presents regarding pesticide oversight, and the positive impact of organic regenerative farming on climate change. The presentations can be viewed [HERE](#).

NEWS & RESEARCH



Ben & Jerry's announced its transition to **“glyphosate-free” ice cream** by sourcing ingredients not sprayed by glyphosate and developing **an organic line that will constitute 6% of their production** (read more [here](#)). While a step in the right direction, B&J doesn't go far enough. **They still intend to source 94% of their dairy products from industrial “dirty dairy” factory farms.**

And speaking of **Glyphosate** (the main ingredient in RoundUp), it just so happens to **unintentionally attack the beneficial bacteria that help crops guard against enemy fungus.** [Read more.](#)



Pesticide use by expectant mothers increases the risk of childhood brain tumors. [Read more.](#)

As we approach the season of deep concern for one another, a time when we tend to invest in causes we care about, we ask that you include us in your year-end charitable giving. The Maryland Pesticide Education Network has a 24-year record of success in reducing the adverse impacts of pesticides on our babies, bees and the Bay. Please help us continue to do this work at a time in our country where state efforts to protect our environmental health are of utmost/critical importance.

[DONATE](#)

POLLINATOR/BEE BUZZ

Displaced coal miners are learning a new skill that could end up saving us all: beekeeping! [Read more.](#)



Three quarters of the world's honey is contaminated with bee-harming pesticides. [Read more.](#)

TIPS FOR HEALTHY LIVING

Mother Earth Living lists the **best indoor plants to grow during upcoming the winter months**. [Read more](#).



Rodale's Organic Life lists the **healthiest fall vegetables** and offers cooking suggestions. [Read more](#).

EWG came out with this **safety guide for 2,500 cleaning products**. [Read more](#).



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

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[YOUR AMAZON SMILE PURCHASES ALSO SUPPORT OUR WORK](#)

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

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