



PesticideSmart News

May 10, 2024

Greetings!

As our trees, plants and flowers are blooming with bursts of green, a rainbow of colors, and hopefully bees, butterflies, birds and the life that enriches our soil, we are reminded of all that is good in the world. This amazing season can also serve as a reminder for us all regarding the need to preserve this beauty and wonder -- and all life, including ours. With ongoing news about the adverse and, at times, catastrophic impacts of pesticides for so many species, each of us can take beneficial steps by pursuing a pesticide-free organic lifestyle. Thank you to all who are taking steps to protect your families, communities, and all life. May we be inspired by beauty that currently surrounds us.

Also in the news this month – the Environmental Working Group has released their “Clean Fifteen” and “Dirty Dozen” fruits and vegetables to seek out and avoid, agrochemical giants are pushing for laws to protect themselves from lawsuits, and Marylanders are being put at risk by exposure to dangerous forever chemicals through pesticides.

To help us continue our important work, please consider contributing to our current matching grant this month.

**Donate To Support
Our Work!**

Go Organic



The Environmental Working Group (EWG) has released its 2024 consumers' **guide for the "Clean Fifteen" and the "Dirty Dozen"**, identifying the least and most contaminated fruits and vegetables – a must for your shopping list. [Get the List](#)



Please eat these organic dandelions: 16 edible pesticide-free garden seeds. Instead of trying to kill the weeds in your garden, eat them instead! [Read More](#)



Curious about ways to stay pesticide-free? *The Guardian*, following recent [Consumer Reports analysis](#), details several ways to stay safe – such as eating organic. [Read More](#)

News and Views



Speaking of dandelions... **Dousing our homes and environments with poison** just to avoid dandelions, sticky pans, and grubs isn't just dangerous – it's unsustainable. [Read More](#)



Some fresh, frozen & canned **nonorganic fruits & vegetables are contaminated with concerning levels of pesticides**, according to an investigation by Consumer Reports. [Read More](#)



Agrichemical giant Bayer has been in the news in recent years for numerous lawsuits relating to its glyphosate-based pesticide RoundUp. In response, they've been **sponsoring legislation in numerous states to try and fend off future lawsuits.** [Read More](#)



A meta-analysis of 174 studies published between 2013 and 2023, by the National Institute of Pediatrics & National Polytechnic Institute, has **found links between pesticides and risk of childhood cancers.** [Read More](#)



EPA has taken the rare step of issuing a warning about “serious, permanent, and irreversible health risks” for DCPA, a herbicide used on farms, golf courses, and athletic fields. [Read More](#)

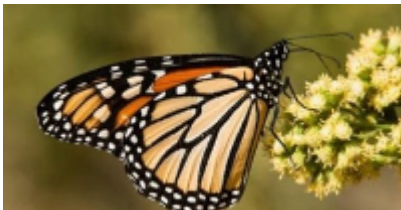


Eight percent of pesticides registered for sales and use in Maryland **are actually known to have a PFAS forever chemical as their active ingredient.** The Smart on Pesticides Coalition is continuing to address the need to 'turn off' this PFAS tap. check out our fact sheet here. [Read More](#)

Pollinators and Bee Buzz



Forty percent of pollinators are at risk of extinction within the next 30 years, leading to a potentially “catastrophic ecosystem collapse”. [Read More](#)



Planting a **butterfly garden is a great way to attract and support pollinators**, while also adding greenery to your yards! [Read More](#)



Large **gaps in pesticide regulation remain for pollinator protection.** The Xerxes Society detailed four key ones here! [Read More](#)

LET'S GET SERIOUS ABOUT SOIL, food security & climate change--yes, they're related!

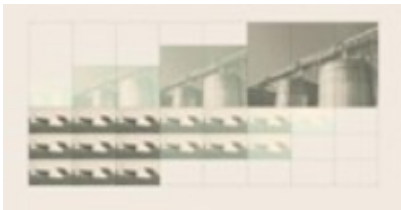


How do you **measure a farms carbon footprint?** British researchers have developed a software that is capable of exactly this. [Read More](#)



U.S. agriculture policy is “underwriting an ecological catastrophe” through its annual farm bill every year. “As University of Washington geomorphologist David Montgomery notes in his magisterial 2007 book *Dirt: The Erosion of Civilizations*, ‘With just a couple feet of soil standing between prosperity and desolation, civilizations that plow through their soil vanish.’” [Read More](#)

Good Reads and Deeds



Austin Frerick **explores the deeply entrenched monopolies in our agriculture industry** in his new book, “Barons: Money, Power, and the Corruption of America’s Food Industry”. [Read the author interview](#)

Please consider donating this month to assist us with this effort!

DONATE - Every Dollar Matched!

Thank you for supporting our efforts!

Sent via ActionNetwork.org. To update your email address, change your name or address, or to stop receiving emails from Md. Pesticide Education Network & the Smart on Pesticides Coalition, please [click here](#).

