

Subject: Re: Pesticides poison 6,000 Canadians per year

From: Monica Craver <mecraver@shaw.ca>

Date: Fri, 22 Jun 2007 10:30:42 -0700

To: John Hunter <hunterjohn@telus.net>, "Corrie Kost" <kost@triumf.ca>

CC: "Bill Tracey" <wrtracey@telus.net>, "Brian Platts" <bplatts@shaw.ca>, council@dnv.org, fonvca@fonvca.org

Dear Friends:

This kind of sign is commonly seen in Southern Ontario. Why is there a WARNING if pesticides are so safe?



Photograph by : Peter Kuitenbrouwer/National Post

This is the kind of sign I feel better seeing on a lawn"



<http://www.pesticidefreesign.com/>

And of course, DNV has adopted the Natural Step System as a guideline toward a sustainable community:
Thus,

The Natural Step System Condition no. 2 states:

Substances produced by society must not systematically increase in nature.

This means: substances must not be produced at a faster pace than they can be broken down in nature or deposited into the earth's crust.

Because: otherwise quality will be lost due to the inevitable spread of substances and their accumulation toward often unknown limits beyond which irreversible changes occur.

In practical terms this means: decreased production of natural substances that are accumulating, and a phase out of all **persistent** and **unnatural** substances.

In essence:

2. What We Make: Chemicals, Plastics and Other Substances – Nature must not “be subject to systematically increasing concentrations of substances produced by society.” Simply, we need to use safe, biodegradable substances that do not cause the spread of toxins in the environment. Why? Since World War II, our society has produced more than 85,000 chemicals, such as DDT and PCBs. Many of these substances do not go away, but rather, spread and bio-accumulate in nature and the fat cells of animals and humans. Cells don't know how to handle significant amounts of these chemicals, often leading to cancer, hormone disruption, improper development, birth defects and long-term genetic change.

Action: We can support green procurement policies and use non-toxic natural cleaning materials and personal care products. We can decrease our use of plastics and reuse the ones we have, such as plastic bags, plates, cups and eating utensils. We can stop using CFCs and other ozone-depleting substances. We can use safe, natural pest control in our schools, parks, homes, lawns and gardens. We can support farmers in becoming sustainable and eliminating hazardous pesticides by voting with our dollars for certified organic food and clothing. We can support the elimination of factory farm feedlots and manure ponds that cause air and water pollution.

<http://homepages.mtn.org/iasa/tssystemconditions.html>

--Monica Craver--

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