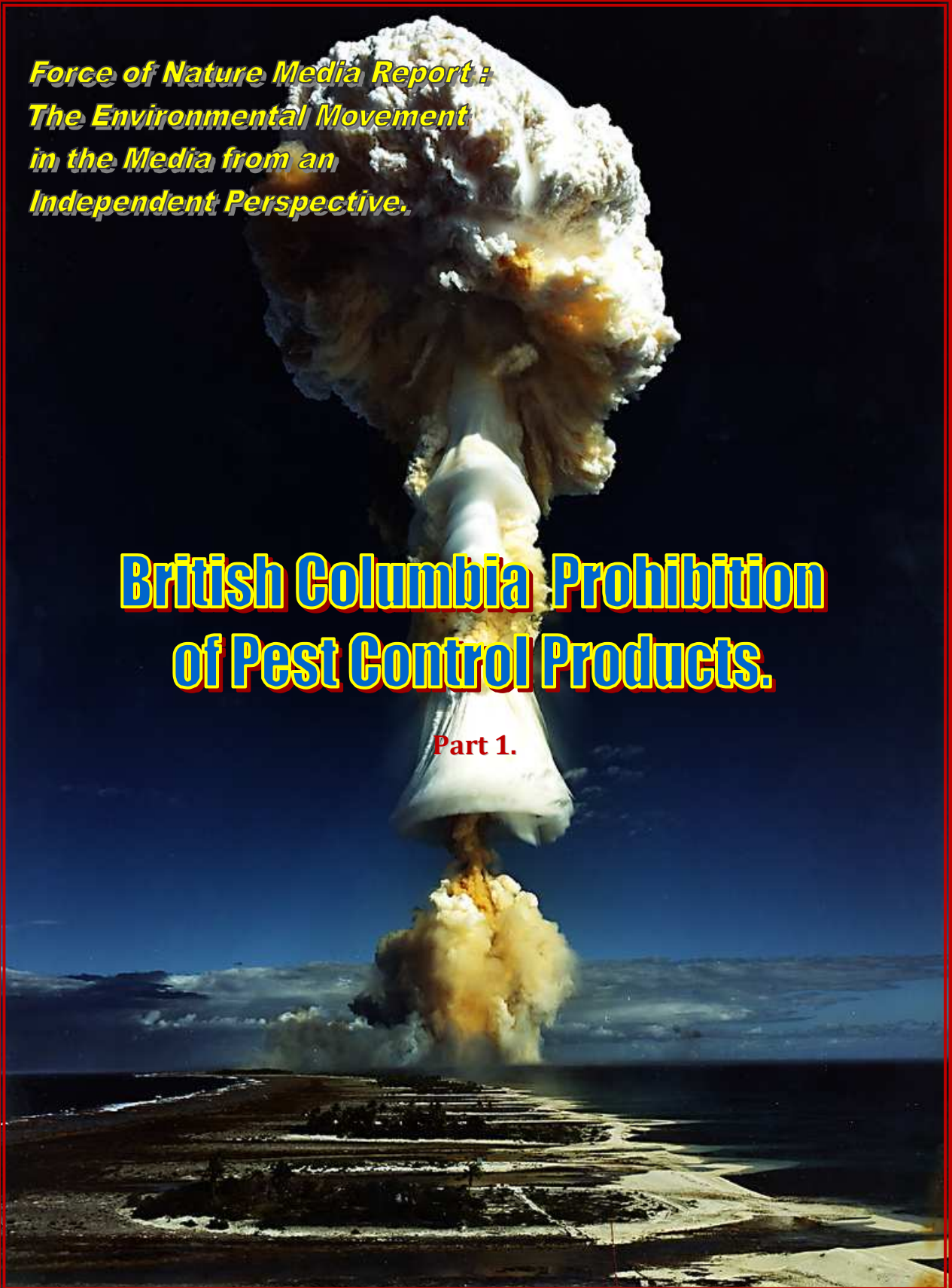


*Force of Nature Media Report :
The Environmental Movement
in the Media from an
Independent Perspective.*

British Columbia Prohibition of Pest Control Products.

Part 1.



British Columbia Prohibition of Pest Control Products.

Part 1.

06/05/2009

Notable quotation.

<< *Public opinion polls conducted in B.C. in 2008 showed that 77 per cent of British Columbians support legislation that would phase out the use of cosmetic pesticides on public and private property.* >>

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SUPPORT A PROVINCIAL BAN ON COSMETIC PESTICIDES

TOXIC FREE CANADA

WEB SITE

RETRIEVED IN APRIL 2009

FEBRUARY 5TH, 2009



An extensive body of medical literature has demonstrated that pesticides pose a significant threat to human health. Pesticide exposure has been linked to cancer, including childhood cancer, developmental defects and behavioural disorders. While pesticides may continue to have a role to play in insect infestation, cosmetic pesticides are non-essential herbicides and insecticides that are used solely to maintain the aesthetic qualities of lawns and gardens.

Many of the cosmetic pesticides available to consumers in British Columbia contain active ingredients that are classified as possible human carcinogens — cancer-causing substances — by the International Agency for Research on Cancer. Some other ingredients are listed as reproductive toxins, endocrine-disrupting chemicals or neurotoxins. Children are most at risk from pesticide exposure because their smaller, developing bodies are more vulnerable to the toxic effects of pesticides.

Cosmetic pesticides are also known to have adverse environmental effects on non-target wildlife species, such as aquatic animals, birds and fish.

Across the country, more than 125 municipalities have passed bylaws that ban the use of cosmetic pesticides within their municipal boundaries. However, only the provincial government has authority to control the sale of pesticides, which has meant that retail stores have continued to sell pesticides that are

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banned for use under the bylaws. In Quebec and Ontario, consumers petitioned their provincial governments for action and were successful in winning legislation that bans the sale and use of certain cosmetic pesticides and restricts the sale of others.

Public opinion polls conducted in B.C. in 2008 showed that 77 per cent of British Columbians support legislation that would phase out the use of cosmetic pesticides on public and private property. There are many alternatives to the use of cosmetic pesticides, including mechanical weed control and non-toxic products that can be used to control insects and weed growth. Organic gardening advice and services are also readily available.

THEREFORE, we, the undersigned, call on the provincial government to enact legislation that would ban the use and sale of cosmetic pesticides in the province of British Columbia. We further call on the government to ensure that the legislation upholds the right of municipalities and regional districts to adopt more stringent bylaws if they so decide and to extend the ban to all private and public lands in the municipality or regional district.

Add your name to this petition.

We take our responsibility with your personal information seriously. Details about how we handle the personal information you provide here can be found in the petition section of our [privacy statement](#).

* all fields are required

Your Name

Your Email Address

Your City

Your Province

Your Postal Code

[Preview Information](#)

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Notable quotations.

<< *The Canadian Cancer Society is concerned that there might be cancer-causing substances in pesticides.* >>

<< *A growing body of evidence links pesticides to cancer [...] including adult and childhood leukemia, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, pancreatic cancer, kidney cancer and some brain cancers.* >>

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CANCER SOCIETY PUSHES FOR B.C. PESTICIDE BAN

APRIL 5TH, 2009



The **Canadian Cancer Society** is calling on the **B.C.** government to ban the sale of cosmetic pesticides — the chemicals used to kill weeds, insects or other pests for aesthetic reasons. public_issues@bc.cancer.ca



Quebec has a ban in place on using such pesticides, and a ban on selling them goes into effect in **Ontario** on Earth Day, **APRIL 22**.



KATHRYN SEELY, the cancer society's manager of public issues, has been making the case to lawmakers in Victoria that B.C. should follow suit.

kseely@bc.cancer.ca

B.C. municipalities with pesticide bylaws in place

- Victoria
- Comox
- Courtenay
- Cumberland
- Esquimalt
- Sechelt
- Gibsons
- Whistler
- West Vancouver

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- North Vancouver
- Vancouver
- Maple Ridge
- Port Moody
- Burnaby
- New Westminster (comes into effect **MARCH 2010**)
- Kelowna
- Nelson
- Invermere (comes into effect **MAY 2009**)

A growing body of evidence links pesticides to cancer, she said, including adult and childhood leukemia, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, pancreatic cancer, kidney cancer and some brain cancers.

"The Canadian Cancer Society is concerned that there might be cancer-causing substances in pesticides," she said.

"We know that the evidence is suggestive, but it is growing There is some risk of harm, and the use of lawn and garden pesticides are non-essential. Many safe alternatives exist, and there's no health benefit to using lawn and garden pesticides."

Eighteen **B.C.** municipalities, including Vancouver and Victoria, have already banned the use of the chemicals, but it would take provincial action to ban selling them.

"The province can then eliminate the patchwork of the 18 municipal bylaws that exist across British Columbia so that all British Columbians are protected from exposure to unnecessary chemicals and pesticides," SEELY said.

The **Canadian Cancer Society** is calling on all candidates running in the **MAY** provincial election to commit to implementing a **B.C.**-wide ban on the sale of cosmetic pesticides by next fall.



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ADVOCATES KEEP UP FIGHT FOR BANS ON COSMETIC PESTICIDES ACROSS B.C.

APRIL 3RD, 2009

CARLITO PABLO



We need to change the way we think about our well manicured and immaculate lawns and gardens, according to **ASHLEY DUYKER**, community action coordinator for the **Canadian Cancer Society's** B.C. and Yukon division. aduyker@bc.cancer.ca



A few dandelions here and there aren't necessarily bad, **DUYKER** said, noting she has a friend who allows her children to play only on lawns with these wild-flowers.

"She knows they're safe and haven't been sprayed with pesticides," **DUYKER** told the Straight.

Many Lower Mainland municipalities — including Vancouver, Burnaby, and West Vancouver — have banned the use of cosmetic pesticides, and New Westminster was the latest to do so in **EARLY MARCH**.

DUYKER said that other municipalities are at different stages of moving in this direction as well.

These include Richmond, Surrey, Delta, White Rock, and the City of North Vancouver.

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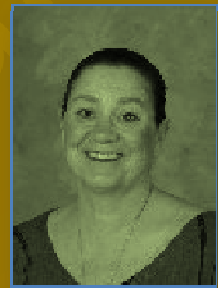
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The District of North Vancouver passed a bylaw against the use of cosmetic pesticides last spring which became effective in **JANUARY** this year, **DUYKER** noted.

"There's a growing body of evidence linking pesticide exposure to both adult and childhood cancer," she said. "And so the Canadian Cancer Society bases its decision on the precautionary principle that it's better to be safe than sorry."

MAE BURROWS is the executive director of **Toxic Free Canada**. Her group has been at the forefront of a campaign to have cosmetic pesticides banned throughout the province. mburrows@telus.net



LAST SEPTEMBER, the **Union of B.C. Municipalities** endorsed a motion during its convention urging the provincial government to enact legislation to ban the sale and use of cosmetic pesticides.

"The New Westminster bylaw is one of just a whole cascade of by-laws that are happening in British Columbia and across the country," **BURROWS** told the Straight.



BURROWS's group has teamed up with the **Canadian Cancer Society** and the **Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment** to fight for and win municipal bans on these chemicals. gideon@cape.ca

The remaining holdout in Metro Vancouver is Coquitlam, where the idea of stopping the use of cosmetic pesticides hasn't caught on among the majority of councillors.

It's something that bothers Coquitlam councillor and environmental advocate **FIN DONNELLY** as well.

Donnelly told the Straight that he tried to introduce a motion on this matter a few years ago but did not find enough support in council.

"I think it's time to test the waters and take the next step," he said.

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SUPPORT A PESTICIDE BAN IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

DAVID SUZUKI FOUNDATION

WEB SITE

RETRIEVED IN MARCH 2009



contact@davidsuzuki.org or solutions@davidsuzuki.org

On **SEPTEMBER 25TH**, the **Union of British Columbia Municipalities** — an organization representing towns and cities across the province — voted overwhelmingly in favour of two motions (C46 and C47) that ask the province of British Columbia to create a ban on lawn and garden pesticides.

Sample letter suggested by David Suzuki Foundation

Dear Premier Campbell and Minister Penner,

As you know, the Union of British Columbia Municipalities recently voted overwhelmingly in support of a motion asking for a province-wide ban on the use and sale of lawn and garden pesticides. The “cosmetic” use of pesticides poses needless risks to public health and the environment.

Hundreds of pesticide products for sale in BC have been banned in Quebec because of health concerns. In Ontario, the new Cosmetic Pesticide Ban Act will come into effect next summer.

Many major Canadian retailers are also phasing-out the sale of these products. British Columbia needs to catch up!

I don't use chemical pesticides on my lawn or garden, and I believe that British Columbians are ready to switch to non-toxic gardening techniques to protect our health and the environment.

I urge your government to show leadership by introducing a province-wide ban. Please act quickly to eliminate this unnecessary source of toxic exposures.

Sincerely

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Background Information from a Independent Perspective.

**No one in the environmental movement
is a recognized expert in the field
of pest control products !!!**

The *fear-mongers* from within the *environmental movement*, like certain biologists, biochemists, doctors, ecologists, nurses, politicians, scientists, etc ... have traditionally *SPREAD PARANOIA AND TERROR* about pest control products with warnings that contain quaint and vague expressions like the following. It's like they all use the same script. —

- *Better to be cautious.*
- *Evidence is growing.*
- *Evidence is suggestive.*
- *May be suggestive.*
- *May cause cancer.*
- *May cause other problems.*
- *May harm us.*
- *May need to protect.*
- *May pose a threat.*
- *Needless risk.*
- *New evidence comes forward.*
- *Perhaps a risk.*
- *Poisoning is difficult to diagnose.*
- *Poses risks.*
- *Possible threat.*
- *Potential danger.*

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- *Potentially devastating.*
- *Research has shown.*
- *The risk is too great.*
- *The word safe cannot be used.*
- *There is some risk of harm.*
- *They may be cancer-causing substances.*
- *We are concerned.*

Anybody from the *environmental movement* heard using the above phrases **DOES NOT KNOW WHAT THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT.**

When *experts* and *bullying politicians* have no proof regarding the so-called threats concerning pest control products, they resort to the above expressions. They are skating on very thin ice with the facts. In such cases, the above phrases are typically employed. Watch for these expressions.

A good example of someone scaring the public with no proof is **ERIN SHAPERO**. Ward 2 Councillor. Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Committee. **Town of Markham**. Here is what she has said in **2004**. —

<< *Homeowners have to start connecting what they do on their property with diseases such as cancer.* >>



Here is a further example of disseminating paranoia in **2008** from **HIRO-TAKA YAMASHIRO**. Chair. **Ontario Medical Association (O.M.A.)**. Pediatrics Section. —

<< *We probably don't know the full effect [of the Ontario prohibition] at this point [but] it's always better to err on the side of caution.* >>

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And yet another example of disseminating paranoia from **JENNIFER ARMSTRONG**. Owner. **Ottawa Environmental Health Clinic**. Member. **The Coalition for a Healthy Ottawa (C.H.O.)**. From her power point presentation. —

<< Very few doctors are adequately trained to detect and treat pesticide poisoning. Because symptoms overlap with many other illnesses, pesticide poisoning is often misdiagnosed. >>

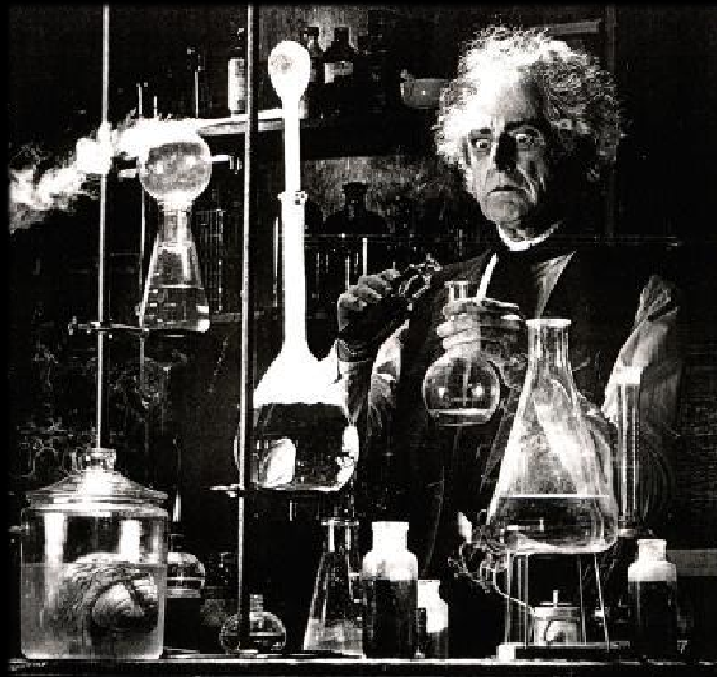


And another from **Canadian Cancer Society**. **KATHRYN SEELY**. Manager of Public Issues. **Canadian Cancer Society (C.C.S.)**. British Columbia. CBC News. **APRIL 5TH, 2009**. —

<< The Canadian Cancer Society is concerned that there might be cancer-causing substances in pesticides. >>

<< A growing body of evidence links pesticides to cancer [...] including adult and childhood leukemia, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, pancreatic cancer, kidney cancer and some brain cancers. >>

*The ever-reliable
environmental movement ...*



*... has its own experts
to evaluate the safety
of pest control products.*

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FORCE OF NATURE was launched for continuous transmission on the Internet on January 1st, 2009. It is a series of e-newsletters destined for the *GREEN SPACE INDUSTRY*, the *ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT*, politicians, municipalities, and the media, nation-wide across Canada, and parts of the United States. *FORCE OF NATURE* is produced in two parts. First. The *MEDIA REPORT* itself that reports on the current events affecting the future of the *GREEN SPACE INDUSTRY*. Second. *INDEPENDENT PERSPECTIVE*., which is a running commentary, sometimes also of a more technical in nature.

FORCE OF NATURE is the brainchild of William H. Gathercole and his entourage. The opinions expressed in these e-newsletters, even though from an independent perspective, may not reflect those of everyone in the *GREEN SPACE INDUSTRY*, or Mr. Gathercole's many associates. Be warned ! Mr. Gathercole and his team may sometimes be very irreverent and fearless with these e-newsletters.

William H. Gathercole holds a degree in Horticulture from the *UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH*, and another pure and applied science degree from *MCGILL UNIVERSITY*. He has worked in virtually all aspects of the *GREEN SPACE INDUSTRY*, including public affairs, personal safety, and environmental issues. Mr. Gathercole has been a consultant and instructor for decades. Mr. Gathercole has been following the evolution of *ENVIRONMENTAL TERRORISM* for over a quarter-century. His involvement in environmental issues reached a fevered pitch in the 1990s, when he orchestrated, with others, legal action against unethical and excessive municipal regulations restricting the use of pest control products. (i.e. the Town of Hudson.) Although he can be accused of being *ANTI-ENVIRONMENT-MOVEMENT*, he is, in fact, simply a strong advocate for the *GREEN SPACE INDUSTRY*. However, this position has not precluded him from criticizing the industry itself. Nonetheless, his vast knowledge of our long journey with environmental issues is *UNDENIABLE*. (Hopefully !) For many years, Mr. Gathercole has been a contributing columnist for *TURF & RECREATION Magazine*, Canada's Turf and Grounds Maintenance Authority.

All pictures contained in *FORCE OF NATURE* were found somewhere on the Internet. We believe that they are in the public domain, as either educational tools, industry archives, promotional stills, publicity photos, or press media stock.

Information presented in *FORCE OF NATURE* has been developed for the education and entertainment of the reader. The events, characters, companies, and organizations, depicted in this document are not always fictitious. Any similarity to actual persons, living or dead, may not be coincidental.

The following titles are currently available. (Or, will be available in the near future.) • Alberta Prohibition. • British Columbia Prohibition. • Burnaby B.C. Prohibition. • Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment. • David Suzuki Foundation. • Death and the Environmental Movement. • Golf and Landscape Trade Industries. • Kazimiera Jean Cottam. • Kelowna B.C. Prohibition. • New Brunswick Prohibition. • Ontario Prohibition. • Organic Fertilizers. • Pets and Lawn Care Chemicals. • Prince Edward Island Prohibition. • Quebec Prohibition. • Richmond B.C. Prohibition. • Saint Catharines Ontario. • Salmon Arm B.C. Prohibition. • The 9/11 Era of the Green Space Industry. • The Failure of Integrated Pest Management. • The Wisdom of the Solomons. • Victoria B.C. Prohibition. • White Rock B.C. Prohibition. • Wisconsin Fertilizer Prohibition. • **ASK FOR A COPY OF ANYBACK ISSUE TODAY.**