



Canadian Cancer Society
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du cancer

Cosmetic Pesticide Use – An idea whose time has gone

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Outline

- **About the Canadian Cancer Society**
- **Pesticides and Cancer**
- **Scope of Pesticide Legislation**
- **Support for Pesticide Legislation**
- **Call to Action**



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First Message



Thank you!



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Canadian Cancer Society

- The eradication of cancer and the enhancement of the quality of life of people living with cancer
- Against all cancers
- Prevention, Support, Research
- Community and volunteer-based



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Cosmetic Chemical Pesticides

Pesticides:

- All 'cides'
- Lawns and gardens

Cosmetic pesticide use:

- Non-agricultural
- Non-forestry

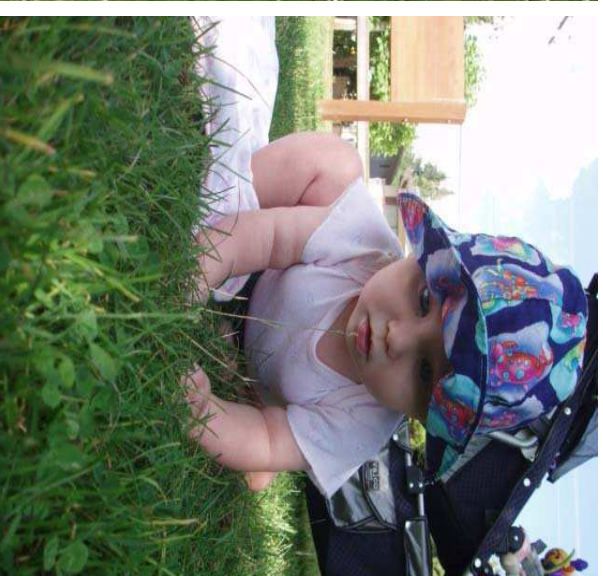




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Pesticides and Cancer

- Studies have linked pesticide exposure to both adult and childhood cancers
- Children are at greater risk from the effects of pesticides





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Precautionary Principle

When an activity raises threats of harm to human health or the environment, precautionary measures should be taken even if some cause-and-effect relationships are not fully established scientifically.

Better safe than sorry!





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Our Position

- The Canadian Cancer Society is calling on the BC government to**
prohibit the sale and use of cosmetic
chemical pesticides on:
- lawns and gardens and non-agricultural landscaping
 - with exemptions to protect public health





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Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is Not the Answer

- IPM cannot be considered an appropriate part of a complete ban to eliminate cosmetic pesticide use – IPM aims to reduce use.
- The principles of IPM have limited use because they are vague and open to interpretation
- IPM results in continued reliance on pesticides

Under IPM, the use of pesticides can actually increase rather than decrease.



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Why do we need provincial legislation?

- Adverse health and environmental impacts
- Only the BC government has jurisdiction to ban the 'sale' of cosmetic pesticides
- BC municipalities can not ban the 'use' of pesticides on provincial or commercial lands
- 31 municipalities have cosmetic pesticide bylaws in BC – this leaves a patchwork of laws and does not protect all British Columbians



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Growing Support

- 31 municipalities in BC
- The Union of BC Municipalities resolutions
- Coalition of 19 provincial health and environmental organizations
- + Another 20 regional coalitions
- + 76% of British Columbians
- + Province of Ontario and Quebec





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Further Public Support

- **4,000+ fans of Pesticide Free BC**
- **3,000+ emails**
- **3,500 petition signatures**
- **300+ letters to the Minister of Environment**





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Legislation is Good for Parks and Recreation

- **Viable alternatives to pesticides exist**
- **Municipalities and golf courses are making the shift**
- **Businesses are shifting to and selling more non-toxic alternatives**
- **Home Depot, Rona and Loblaws have phased out the sale of cosmetic pesticides**





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Pesticide Bans Work

- Quebec vs. BC use
- Toronto and Halifax reductions
- If complemented by a strong education campaign
- “The grass is still growing in Hudson”





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What will the Industry say?

**Just what the tobacco industry said in
the 1960's and beyond**

- "junk science"**
- "will ruin business"**
- "tested for safety by Health Canada"**
- "nanny state"**



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Call to Action

- Become a fan of Pesticide Free BC on Facebook
- Sign the petition
- Send a letter or email
- Tell 5 friends
- Play:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dTcvO-08NTA>

