



Search Site SEARCH

**Nobody beats a Braby Deal.**

PH: 1-888-832-8053 EMAIL: INFO@BRABYMOTORS.COM WEB: WWW.BRABYMOTORS.COM

Salmon Arm Observer - Opinion

TEXT

COMMENTS

EMAIL LETTER PRINT FOLLOW SHARE

# Pesticide ban a win-win situation

Published: August 09, 2011 6:00 PM

Premier Christy Clark and Opposition leader Adrian Dix are to be commended for supporting a province-wide ban on the sale and use of lawn and garden pesticides. Not only will this legislation be hugely popular, it will also have a very positive effect on the health of B.C.'s people, environment, and economy. How can we be sure? Because we've seen what happens when pesticide regulations are passed in other provinces.

Book online and receive a **FREE UPGRADE**



**AVIS** We try harder. GET THIS DEAL

The first result, not surprisingly, is a very low pesticide usage rate. Quebec's pesticide ban started to take effect in April, 2003. By 2007, chemical pesticides were being used by just four per cent of households with a lawn or garden. By contrast, in B.C. – which lacks a province-wide ban – the figure was 25 per cent.

When pesticides are taken off store shelves, people are no longer exposed to lawn chemicals which can cause very serious medical problems. The Ontario College of Family Physicians tells us pesticides are associated with brain cancer, prostate cancer, kidney cancer, and pancreatic cancer. The College makes a point of saying some children exposed to pesticides have an increased risk of leukemia, especially if they come into contact with "insecticides and herbicides used on lawns, fruit trees and gardens..."

The Ontario ban is also improving water quality. The provincial Ministry of Environment studied pesticide concentrations in 10 urban streams before and after their ban came into effect (2008 versus 2009) and compared the findings. The study's author states: "Concentrations of 2,4-D, dicamba, MCPP, total phenoxy herbicides and total insecticides were significantly lower in 2009..." In fact, in some streams pesticide concentrations were up to 97 per cent lower. That's an extraordinary result and suggests a province-wide pesticide ban in B.C. would have similar benefits.

The Ontario ban has also been well-received by lawn-care businesses. The firm Environmental Factor – which makes a non-toxic corn-gluten-based weed inhibitor – had a 400 per cent increase in sales and manufacturing in the ban's first six months. Product demand was so great the company had to move to larger premises. Other Ontario firms said they viewed the new legislation as an opportunity for business growth and new hiring. (Organic lawn care, which includes hand-weeding, is more labour-intensive.)

But what about B.C.? Polling done in the province by Innovative Research Group and released in February, 2011 found support for a phase-out of "cosmetic" or non-essential pesticides was over 70 per cent. The research also found 72 per cent of British Columbians believe these pesticides pose a threat to the environment and nearly 70 per cent believe they threaten children. Perhaps most significantly, the study found support for the phase-out does not differ between rural and urban areas. The message for government couldn't be clearer: No matter where they live in the province, the vast majority of British Columbians want an end to toxic lawn products.

We would suggest B.C. model its ban on Ontario's excellent Cosmetic Pesticides Ban Act but go one step further: in addition to lawns and gardens, extend the restrictions to golf-courses. The latter are increasingly maintained without poisons, a trend that legislation would only strengthen.

**RECOMMEND ON FACEBOOK**

Recommend Be the first of your friends to recommend this.

**OTHERS ALSO READ...**

Salmon Arm Observer

- Approach to pesticide ban refreshing
- Pesticide ban good for health and economy
- Pesticide use a health threat
- Pesticide bylaw criticized
- Solving septic situations

BC Thompson Nicola

- No need for a provincewide cosmetic-pesticide ban
- Pesticide ban: When will ban be implemented?
- Pesticide ban: Reducing health hazards

**BCLocalbiz.com**

**OXY-DRY**  
ULTRA LOW MOISTURE CARPET/FURNITURE CLEANING

THE BETTER WAY TO CLEAN YOUR CARPET

**DRIES FASTER**

CLICK HERE for more information **oxy-dry.ca**

Franchises available! Est. 1996

**Turtle Mountain**

**DON'T MISS IT**

OUR NEW SHOW HOME GRAND OPENING

Click here to find out more

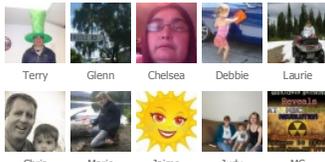
**SATURDAY AUGUST 13 12 to 4 pm**



**Salmon Arm Observer** on Facebook

Like

223 people like **Salmon Arm Observer**.



Facebook social plugin

**bcclassified.com**

**BORDER COLLIE PUPS. Rare white** MORE INFO

**Beautiful Basement Suite Sulivan Heights Surrey** MORE INFO

**VITA-MIX ROADSHOW** MORE INFO

**RICK'S**

**flyerland.ca**

We would urge British Columbians to email the Premier (premier@gov.bc.ca) today with one simple message: "This summer, give us the protection from pesticides already enjoyed by millions of other Canadians."

- This is an edited version of the original op-ed piece.

Gideon Forman is Executive Director of the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment.

Dr. Warren Bell is Past Founding President of the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment.

Ads by Google

[Vancouver New Years Yachts](#)

Gorgeous Formal or Casual Cruises Celebrate in style free parking  
[www.AccentCruises.ca](#)

[Taking You For A Ride](#)

Wow. Garfield Dunlop claimed almost \$40,000 in mileage last year.  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=CM0AF9y0LGo](#)

[Abbotsford Extended Stays](#)

Extended stays and furnished corporate housing in Abbotsford BC  
[www.premieresuites.com/abbotsford](#)

[Apartments London Ontario](#)

The best bargains go fast Find them first and move fast  
[Homes4SaleLondon.com](#)

TEXT [ ] [ ]

COMMENTS

EMAIL LETTER PRINT FOLLOW SHARE

### COMMENTS

**COMMENTING ETIQUETTE:** To encourage open exchange of ideas in the BCLocalNews.com community, we ask that you follow [our guidelines](#) and respect standards. Personal attacks, offensive language and unsubstantiated allegations are not allowed. [More on etiquette...](#)

Like

#### Add New Comment

Type your comment here.

Image

Post as ...

Showing 0 comments

Sort by

Trackback URL

### RECENT COMMENTS



famousguitarsI think most will find that the magority of smokers would like to finally quit even though it's our own fault for smoking in the first place. I'm on long term disability and can't afford the...

[Salmon Arm Observer - B.C. quit-smoking plan attracts critics](#) · 9 hours ago



JoannePLHa well you all know how petition signing works in this town. They don't. I have eaten Rosa'a food from every location she has been made to move to and from. The food is very nutritious and the...

[Salmon Arm Observer - Blackburn Park may lose taco stand](#) · 2 days ago



SysErrAnyone seen my wallaby? 39 in/ 51 lbs. If so please do not approach he may kick, in the nuts! Lighten up a little folks no people have been harmed by humor maybe your sensibility has been insulted...

[Salmon Arm Observer - Lost crocodile a summer hoax](#) · 2 days ago



SysErrI'd sign it!

[Salmon Arm Observer - Blackburn Park may lose taco stand](#) · 2 days ago



JayhooHave you looked up the definition of a class 2b carcinogen? I would suggest doing that... You may notice that pickled vegetables are also on it. Petitioned the pickle isle at Safeway lately by any...

[Salmon Arm Observer - BC Hydro meters a danger](#) · 2 days ago

what **twitter** is saying about **#shuswap**



boxerdoggy Leaving Canmore. Awesome 5 days in BC #shuswap  
about 1 hour ago · reply · retweet · favorite



DaveMills19 Day 3, #shuswap lake. Water was a little choppier this morning, got some film, gonna work on some things for the evening #wakeboard session  
2 hours ago · reply · retweet · favorite



**MOST READ STORIES**

**THIS WEEK | LAST WEEK**

**MOST READ IN SALMON ARM OBSERVER**

- [Blackburn Park may lose taco stand](#)  
Salmon Arm Observer • Aug-02-2011
- [Two die in Enderby, alcohol fuels local calls to police](#)  
Salmon Arm Observer • Aug-02-2011
- [Sturgis North organizers defend record](#)  
Salmon Arm Observer • Aug-02-2011
- [Band serves city over SmartCentres application](#)  
Salmon Arm Observer • Aug-02-2011
- [Dog owner may face assault charges](#)  
Salmon Arm Observer • Jul-27-2011

**MOST READ IN BC THOMPSON NICOLA**

- [Blackburn Park may lose taco stand](#)  
Salmon Arm Observer • Aug-02-2011
- [Two die in Enderby, alcohol fuels local calls to police](#)  
Salmon Arm Observer • Aug-02-2011
- [Sturgis North organizers defend record](#)  
Salmon Arm Observer • Aug-02-2011
- ['Brutal' kidnapping, assault in North Kamloops: police](#)  
Kamloops This Week • Aug-06-2011
- [HOW DID THESE BABIES DIE? Question unites grieving families](#)  
Kamloops This Week • Aug-01-2011

**MOST READ IN BC**

- [Good Samaritans rescue motorist](#)  
The Tri-City News • Jul-22-2011
- [Layton situation looked at by MP Atamanenko](#)  
Castlegar News • Aug-04-2011
- [Well-known former local musician dies](#)  
Terrace Standard • Aug-04-2011
- [Update: Hundreds gather to remember slain Revelstoke youth Daniel Levesque](#)  
Revelstoke Times Review • Aug-05-2011
- [Fire at World Gym in Abbotsford investigated as arson](#)  
Abbotsford News • Aug-03-2011

[more local news from around bc](#)

**site map**

- [Home](#)
- [News](#)
- + [Local News](#)
- + [BC News](#)
- [Sports](#)
- + [Local Sports](#)
- + [BC Sports](#)
- [Business](#)
- + [Local Business](#)
- + [BC Business](#)
- [Entertainment](#)
- + [Local Arts & Entertainment](#)
- + [BC Arts & Entertainment](#)
- + [TV Listings](#)
- + [Movies & Theatre listings](#)

- [Community](#)
- [Lifestyles](#)
- + [Local Lifestyles](#)
- + [BC Lifestyles](#)
- + [Health](#)
- + [Tourism Info](#)
- [Opinion](#)
- + [Local Opinions](#)
- + [BC Opinions](#)
- + [Letters](#)
- [Calendar](#)
- [Weather](#)
- [Horoscopes](#)
- [Lotteries](#)
- [Puzzles](#)

- [Obits](#)
- [Blogs](#)
- [Photo Store/Gallery](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
- [Auto](#)
- [Travel](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Flyers](#)
- [Mobile Edition](#)
- [RSS](#)

**customer service**

- [Contact Us](#)
- [About Us](#)
- [Advertising Information](#)
- [Terms of Use](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
- [Paper Delivery](#)
- [Sign up for a Paper Route](#)

**partners**

- [Alberta Community Papers](#)
- [BC Community Papers](#)
- [BCLocalNews.com](#)
- [BCClassified.com](#)
- [BCDailyBuzz.com](#)
- [BCJobNetwork.com](#)
- [BCLocalHomes.com](#)
- [BCDailyDeals.com](#)
- [BCRenoNation.ca](#)
- [Black Press](#)
- [Flyerland.ca](#)
- [Honolulu Star Advertiser](#)
- [Newlocalhome.com](#)
- [Washington State Community Papers](#)
- [UsedCanada.com](#)

-  shuswapbcportal Win \$100 gift certificate for The Smugglers Cove! #Shuswap <http://fb.me/GtHhTBLe>  
8 hours ago · reply · retweet · favorite
-  shuswapbcportal Win 1 of 4 Free Handmade Burger combos from Bear Foot Burgers! #Shuswap <http://fb.me/EW0izsp1>



Share on  
Facebook

Share on  
Twitter

Share via  
email