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Suzuki
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Protecting Human Health

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Weed Out Pesticides!



Keeping unnecessary lawn and garden pesticides off

store shelves is the best way to stop their use. That's why the David Suzuki Foundation is working to ban both their *sale* and *use* in provinces across Canada.

With Ontario and Quebec banning unnecessary lawn and garden pesticides, and New Brunswick considering similar action, there is great promise for similar bans across the country.

[Voice your support now](#) for strong regulations in your province

Province by Province Updates

Ontario

This week, a ban on lawn and garden pesticides was finalized by the government of Ontario. Starting this spring, 295 pesticides will be banned in Canada's most populous province, benefiting both human health and the environment through reduced use and exposure. [Read the press release.](#)

"Yes we can, eh?!"

This would never have happened without thousands of others like you, who used the David Suzuki Foundation website to tell government officials the places we live, work and play should be free of needless chemical pesticides.

Your collective effort strengthened the ban, even while the chemical lobby threatened to weaken it. You actions go beyond making Ontario the second province in Canada to ban lawn and garden pesticides. Now is the time to [grab this momentum to ban pesticides in other provinces.](#)

New Brunswick

The good news: A [recent public consultation](#) garnered widespread public support for province-wide prohibitions on lawn and garden pesticides. However, government has not yet announced what direction they will take. [Send a note of support](#) for a strong ban in New Brunswick.

Here's an [opinion piece](#) from our Health and Environment Policy Analyst on the current situation in New Brunswick.

[Read](#) the David Suzuki Foundation input to the New Brunswick public process.

British Columbia

Banning lawn and garden pesticides took another major step when a wide range of BC mayors and councillors passed a collective resolution asking the provincial government to implement a province-wide ban. The support was overwhelming--only a single delegate voted against the motion. Read this [CBC news](#) article for more.

The David Suzuki Foundation has joined other organizations to support a province-wide ban on needless pesticides. [Read the joint statement.](#)

But government has not responded with a plan. Let [BC lawmakers know that you want a ban on lawn and garden pesticides.](#)

Alberta

The City of Calgary voted in favour of a pesticide ban and sent a clear recommendation to province of Alberta to develop a province-wide ban on cosmetic pesticides. The province responded with token gesture--a ban on "weed and feed", the most disturbing

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Ryan Anderson believes "we can help keep Canada beautiful and clean for future generations."

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of applications.

Send a [note to the Alberta environment minister and Premier now](#), letting them know that it's time for a comprehensive province-wide ban.

Provincial Pesticide Bans Work!

Quebec is currently the only province to restrict cosmetic pesticide sales (the Ontario ban will not be in place until 2009). Statistics Canada found that the number of households using pesticides in Quebec decreased by 50% between 1994 and 2005. Nationwide, pesticide use dipped by only 2 percentage points over the same period. [Click here](#) for summary

Read [Pesticide Free? Oui!](#) to learn about how Quebec's cosmetic pesticide legislation works, how it can be improved, and how it can be a model for pesticide laws in other provinces.

The truth behind industry generated myths about [provincial pesticide bans](#).

Background Information:

[David Suzuki explains](#) why his garden is free of chemical pesticides.

[Tips to make your own garden pesticide free.](#)

View the David Suzuki Foundation's [submission to committee](#) (June 9th, 2008) and [briefing note](#) (June 16th, 2008) outlining our concerns.

The David Suzuki Foundation's [comments on Ontario's draft legislation](#). (May 22nd, 2008).

The David Suzuki Foundation's [comments on Ontario's cosmetic pesticide ban](#) to the provincial government. (Jan 31st, 2008)

[Joint statement of 15 health and environmental organizations](#) in support of Ontario-wide ban. (January, 2008)

[Northern Exposure: Acute Pesticide Poisonings in Canada](#). This study published by the David Suzuki Foundation reports 1600 cases of acute pesticide poisoning in Ontario in a year, more than half involving children under the age of six.

[Pesticide Literature Review](#) by the Ontario College of Family Physicians: a systematic review of human health effects associated with chronic pesticide exposure.

Fifty pesticides registered for use in Canada are banned in other countries. Read more in [The Food We Eat](#).

[News releases--](#)
[April 22nd, 2008](#)
[June 18th, 2008](#)

[Archive](#)

Debugging the Ban: David Suzuki Foundation recommendations on [which chemicals Ontario should include in its cosmetic pesticide ban](#) (August 2008)

More information and the draft regulation is posted on the [Environmental Registry](#).

[Read our highlights of](#) Ontario's draft regulations.

[Read our full submission](#) to the Environmental Registry

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