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## State fines company \$16K for Eugene bee deaths

By Vanessa Paz and News Staff | Published: Nov 12, 2014 at 3:57 PM PST (2014-11-12T23:57:39Z)

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Title=State+Fines+Company+%2416K+For+Eugene+Bee+Deaths&Random=0.07461475516397131&PartnerID=134071&Cid=282491591



EUGENE, Ore. - The tree service company that sprayed pesticides in violation of state rules last summer, killing at last a thousand bees, faces \$16,000 in fines.

The company put tents up around the trees to prevent the bees from coming in further contact with the pesticide

The Oregon Department of Agriculture's pesticides program said Glass Tree Care and Spray Service applied pesticides at a North Eugene apartment complex in a careless manner, killing the bees.

The trees were in full bloom, attracting pollinators.

And the state had worked to educate pesticide applicators about the danger after a bee die-off in 2013.

"We consider this to be a violation of the state's law through negligence," said Bruce Pokarney, spokesperson for the Department of Agriculture. "We feel the applicator and the operator should've known based on all the information out there about pollinator activity, about what happened in Wilsonville the year before with the death of bees."

To be fair, KVAL News reached out to Glass Tree Care.

JP Mischkot with the company issued this statement:

"We have received the violations from Oregon Department of Agriculture regarding a pesticide incident last June, and are currently reviewing our legal options. Glass Tree Care and Spray service would never intentionally but bees in harm's way. We have cooperated fully with the department throughout the investigation, and promptly completed all of the recommended mitigations. Glass Tree Service has also updated our internal protocols to ensure that something like this does not happen again in the future. We will continue to hold ourselves to the highest standards."

Residents of the apartment complex [reported the dead bees to the KVAL Tipline](http://www.kval.com/news/local/Apartment-complex-sidewalks-covered-with-dead-and-dying-bees-263684861.html) (http://www.kval.com/news/local/Apartment-complex-sidewalks-covered-with-dead-and-dying-bees-263684861.html) in June.

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The Oregon Department of Agriculture investigated, initially [suspending the tree care company's pesticide applicator license](http://www.kval.com/news/local/State-suspends-pesticide-operators-license-after-bee-deaths-264047531.html) (http://www.kval.com/news/local/State-suspends-pesticide-operators-license-after-bee-deaths-264047531.html).



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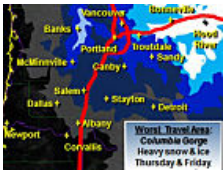
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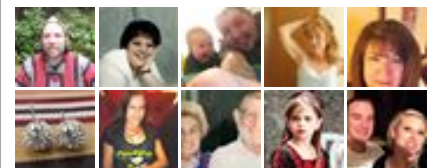
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Norah G Fon (<http://account.komonews.com/profile/54016>)

just now

NORAH RESPONDS AGAINST HORRIFIC AND EXCESSIVE FINE IN EUGENE, OREGON, FOR THE SMALLEST AND MOST INSIGNIFICANT PESTICIDE VIOLATION — \$16,000 FOR THE ALLEGED DEATH OF A MERE 1000 BEES !?!

Oregon Department of Agriculture appears to be infested with anti-pesticide state regulators whose objective is the destruction of businesses operating in the professional tree care industry. The horrific Eugene fine is completely out-of-proportion with the seriousness of the violation. Because this horrific Eugene fine, the owners, employees, and families dependent on these businesses are facing terror, despair, and destitution. This horrific Eugene fine, in fact, represents mere abuse of government power and authority, and absolute terrorization against legitimate, law-abiding, and tax-paying businesses. The horrific Eugene fine clearly demonstrates that state regulators use the smallest of pesticide violations as a pretext for imposing punishment with fines that are arbitrary, brutal, horrific, inconsistent, prejudicial, stunningly debilitating, and completely out-of-proportion with the seriousness of the violation. In essence, state regulators at Oregon Department of Agriculture are misleading the public by pretending that their horrific Eugene fine somehow protects the environment from pesticides. State regulators also exaggerated the seriousness of the violation. 1000 bees ! A mere 1000 bees !?! Really !?! Are these state regulators for real !?! This is, indeed, the SMALLEST AND MOST INSIGNIFICANT of pesticide violations ! If we follow their logic, how about imposing horrific fines against bee-keepers who have killed billions of bees through mis-management practices alone !?! Who wants to live in a society where horrific fines are arbitrarily imposed by prejudiced anti-pesticide business-hating state regulators who operate their jurisdictions like pseudo Nazi Germany !?! NORAHG has archived more reports concerning HORRIFIC FINES on The Pesticide Truths Web-Site ... <http://wp.me/P1jq40-4Xa> (<http://wp.me/P1jq40-4Xa>) NORAHG is the National Organization Responding Against HUJE that seek to destroy the Green space and other industries. WILLIAM H GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G Get the latest details at <http://pesticidetruths.com/> (<http://pesticidetruths.com/>)<http://pesticidetruths.com/toc/> (<http://pesticidetruths.com/toc/>)<http://wp.me/P1jq40-2rr> (<http://wp.me/P1jq40-2rr>)<https://www.facebook.com/norah.gfon> (<https://www.facebook.com/norah.gfon>)

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drinkmorewater (<http://account.kval.com/profile/4018>)

18 hours ago

Kill this, kill that. Schools do not teach a full spectrum of knowledge of our natural environment. At low elevation and coastal areas trees can grow over 100' in 30 or so years. High elevation different story. There are no potato trees. Sure we do not need a bald face hornets nest at the front door or in the bathroom. I find insects cheap entertainment. Not knowing to hold off spraying when these Lindens were in full bloom shows maybe someone could not read. Ed Wilson was a 12 year from Mississippi or Alabama when he discovered the first fire ant nest in US, went on to become PHD at Harvard in entomology. His take on ants is great. Langsworth and Root families were early honey bee researchers here in US. We need healthy insect populations of all kinds, not just the honey bee. I believe the company paid enough with bad PR and did not need to get fined, just hurts the workers of a small company during the holidays. There is my scrambled ramble.

1 (<http://account.kval.com/profile/13918>) Like Reply



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<http://account.kval.com/profile/60047> @drinkmorewater (<http://account.kval.com/profile/4018>) Well done drinkmorewater

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