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Posting as Norah G Fon ([Change](#))



[Amanda Brailey](#) · [Edmonton, Alberta](#)

The people who spray this stuff for the city do so in a haz mat suit yet somehow say it's safe for anyone to do so at anytime. Many, many, many other municipalities have passed bans against these chemicals, are all of them being paranoid needlessly? Harvard has linked neonicotinoids to colony collapse disorder so if we want to continue eating we need to take this seriously. I also know Sheryl and this is a true story and has been going on for YEARS. It's hard to get a lawyer when you can't afford one. I'm happy her story is finally getting out!

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o

[Jack DeRoo](#) · Top Commenter

Because the label on the commercial grade 10L containers comes with an MSDS (materials safety data sheet) and it says to take precautions when handling the commercial concentrate. Plus, they work for a union where safety has gone a bit overboard in some cases.

Now, this is herbicides I'm talking about. If they're spraying pesticides, then many of those are also lethal to humans and require the white pajamas and respirator. That being said, you can't spray those where other humans are present. I work in an industry where we have to use both types and we do pesticides after hours, once all the staff have left.

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o

[Norah G Fon](#)

Brailey is WRONG ! Hazmat suits are not needed. There is no requirement to wear a breathing apparatus for the application of pest control products in the urban landscape. While watching a professional lawn care applicator perform his

tasks, non-expert anti-pesticide activists arrive at the erroneous conclusion that applicators must wear a respirator or mask. Anti-pesticide activists like Brailey attempt to imply that the applicator is improperly protected, and needs to wear a mask or a respirator. As usual, anti-pesticide activists are incorrect ! In fact, the applicator is not required to wear a mask or a respirator because it is not necessary. All pest control products applied by professional lawn care companies do not require respiratory protection such as masks or respirators. The instructions for using these products, including the requirements for personal protection, are clearly indicated on the label. To ensure applicator safety, the label states what personal protective equipment needs to be worn when applying the product. However, all pest control products used by professional lawn care companies are considered as eye and skin irritants, and personal protective equipment, such as pants and rubber boots, may be required for the applicator. Nonetheless, no pest control products used by professional lawn care companies require the use of respiratory protection for the applicator. Indisputable scientific research shows, as reported through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's and Health Canada's vast toxicology database, that no harm will occur when pest control products are used according to label directions, even when masks or respirators are not required. EPA and Health Canada have the essential expertise on pest control products, and not anti-pesticide activists.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · June 19 at 6:41pm



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[Amanda Brailey](#) · [Edmonton, Alberta](#)

It doesn't take an expert to realize that there are people in white suits and respirators on the Whitemud every year spraying the grass! I see them every year and I personally have to question why they are spraying something in a public area that requires that much protection for the applicator. The government still sells cigarettes for gawd sakes and collects taxes off them, what makes you think they are experts in keeping us healthy? Regardless of whether or not they are harmless to humans, they are killing the bees, and every expert and scientist out there knows that bees are crucial to our life on earth.

<http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/news/press-releases/study-strengthens-link-between-neonicotinoids-and-collapse-of-honey-bee-colonies/>

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [1](#) · June 21 at 10:37am



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[Norah G Fon](#)

NORAHG RESPONDS TO THE MOCK-CONCERN OF McCUMSEY

Sheryl McCumsey is a non-expert anti-pesticide activist who attempts coerce and terrorize government officials and the public into believing her fact-less fear-mongering against pest control products. McCumsey is a mere student in massage therapy and footwear, and has absolutely no training, expertise, or background in matters concerning pest control products. Her opinions carry no credibility and are worthless. McCumsey spreads needless hysteria, fear, paranoia, and terror against pest control products by falsely alleging that she and her daughter somehow become sick whenever a neighbour uses them. McCumsey has even been terrorizing her neighbours for seven years because of her mock-fear about pest control products applied to their properties. McCumsey conspires to recklessly and arbitrarily prohibit against pest control products used in the urban landscape, and, consequently, seeks to destroy legitimate and tax-paying businesses operating in the professional lawn care industry. McCumsey neglects to mention that there are real trends against prohibition across North America, with dozens of jurisdictions that are stopping or rescinding or limiting anti-pesticide prohibition, or granting professional lawn care businesses with an exception status. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-1JO> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-6h1> McCumsey conveniently forgets that pest control products are scientifically-safe, and will not cause harm to people, animals, or the environment. <http://wp.me/p1jq40-7HR> There is not one known illness or death from the proper use of pest control products used in the urban landscape. Perhaps if McCumsey were to prioritize her energy to the primary causes of health issues, such as life-style choices, lives would be saved. More information about McCumsey can be found at the following links ... [mccumseyreport1](#) [mccumseyreport2](#) NORAHG is the National Organization Responding Against HUJE that seek to harm the Green space industry. WILLIAM H. GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G. Get the latest details at The Pesticide Truths Web-Site <http://pesticidetruths.com/> and go to The Complete Library Of Web-Pages, Reports, & References <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2rr>

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[Melissa Richardson](#) · [University of the Fraser Valley](#)

Lets resort to defamation of character. Just because someone doesn't have a formal education in Pesticide Management or Biochem doesn't make them uninformed. I'm not trained in Corporate Shillery, but I can sure call it when I see it, and boy do I see it.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [3](#) · [June 19 at 9:19am](#)



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[Gloria Rumsey](#) · [Beer school](#)

I must admit that it amazes me that people now use the term activist as if it means terrorist. Sheryl has been terrorizing her neighbours? I'm pretty sure THAT is against the law..quit trying to sensationalize your comments by spewing such garbage. You may not agree and think all pesticides are safe but again that is your opinion..there are many studies that say they are not that safe at all. Putting these into the hands of the average person who I would guess don't even read the label is foolish and dangerous, Period.

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[Karin Nelson](#) · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · [Edmonton, Alberta](#)

An activist that is trying to make the world a healthier place for idiots like you! It's time to get as many chemicals out of our environment as possible. If this was me, I'd be scared for my health as well. Scientists are finding glyphosate in human tissue and breast milk. The world needs more activists!!

Glyphosate
N-(phosphonomethyl)glycine

General

Glyphosate is the active ingredient in Monsanto's Roundup™, and many other agricultural, forestry, and residential herbicides with the products names Rodeo™ and Pondmaster™, etc. It is a broad spectrum, non-selective systemic herbicide.

How It Works

Amazingly, the mode of action of glyphosate is not known. There is considerable research that points the potential that the pesticide inhibits the shikimic acid pathway, which prevents plants from synthesizing three aromatic amino acids. It has also been shown to inhibit the enzyme EPSP synthase[1] and a host of other enzymes in specific plant species.

Inert Ingredients

Commercial glyphosate is composed of a myriad of other chemicals all with the

purpose of making the herbicide more easy to use. These products are generally not placed on the label. Estimates are that over 99% of the product is composed of these inert products, of which little research has been conducted.

Health Effects

The toxicity of glyphosate alone is much less than the toxicity of commercial glyphosate used by consumers, due to the so-called “inert” ingredients in the commercial formulation. For example the surfactant polyethoxylated tallowamine has an acute lethal dose three times that of glyphosate alone and destroys red blood cells. Yet toxicity studies used to regulate the product only examine the “active” ingredient only and not the formulation.

Acute symptoms of glyphosate exposure include, destruction of red blood cells, lung dysfunction, low blood pressure, kidney damage, erosion of gastrointestinal tract, dizziness, fever, and nausea.[2],[3],[4]

A study of Ontario farmers, found that those using glyphosate had an increase of miscarriages and premature births within their family.[5] Also, glyphosate has been shown to disrupt hormones that regulate oestrogen synthesis, important reproductive hormones that have also been shown to have a role in bone growth and testicular function.

Examinations of the effects of Roundup™ on human lymphocytes have shown an increase in the frequency of sister chromatid exchanges, genetic exchanges during cell division resulting in point mutations.[6],[7]

Environmental Effects

Glyphosate has been shown to kill beneficial insects including parasitoid wasps, lacewings and ladybugs.[8] Other insect populations have been drastically reduced by glyphosate populations, which negatively impacts on birds and small insect-eating mammals.[9] These changes in plant communities impact birds' sources of food, shelter and nest support.

Glyphosate in its commercial form is 20 to 70 times more toxic to fish than glyphosate alone[10]. It is also increasingly toxic at higher temperatures. This is significant when one considers that glyphosate is a defoliant and the lack of plant cover increases the temperature of waterways. Sublethal effects on fish include erratic swimming, gill damage, and changes in liver structure.[11],[12]

Glyphosate also impacts non-target plant species in several important ways. In low doses it decreases both the number of seeds germinating and the seedling weight as compared to untreated plants.[13] It also affects the ability of bacteria located on the nodules of leguminous plants to perform nitrogen fixation, an essential process converting nitrogen from an unusable form to a compound that

is able to be used by the plant. Studies have shown that at typically application rates, glyphosate inhibits up to 70% of nitrogen fixation.[14]

Corn and soybeans, are some of the crops that have been genetically modified with genes that convey resistance to the herbicide Roundup™. There exist numerous other health, environmental and economic issues with these products. For information on genetically modified, glyphosate resistant crops see Sierra Club of Canada's fact sheets on Genetically Modified Organisms.

Conclusions

Glyphosate is a herbicide that is constantly lauded as benign. These affirmations are based on studies examining the active ingredient only. In the field, our lawns, our communities, however a different result has emerged. Glyphosate has caused a host of acute and chronic effects ranging from red blood cell destruction to increased propensity for miscarriages. The effects on wildlife, from fish to birds and also non-target species have been observed at doses lower than the application rates suggested.

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[Deborah Lacerte](#) · [Edmonton, Alberta](#)

As an avid Gardener and supporter of environmental stewardship, I try to use as little chemicals in my yard as possible. That being said, some weeds cannot be controlled without the use of herbicide.

For example, Thistle. Because of it's extensive networked root system, you can dig out the weeds until the cows come home but it will not rid you of this problem weed and this weed grows FAST! You can dig out all your Thistle and in less than 2 or 3 days, it is popping up again. The only thing to work is Roundup because it delivers the chemical to the "root" of the problem and kills it. To make matters worse, I have one neighbor whose ENTIRE yard is Thistle and they do NOTHING about it so it keeps coming back to my yard, again and again even with treatment by Roundup.

And if you want to talk about the ugly, freaking Dandelions, our own city does not even control them in ANY way so how is anybody else supposed to keep their yard Dandelion free without the use of Killex? I cannot spend 1 - 2 hours EVERY day just pulling weeds and I doubt everyone else in the city can either.

If the city wants to go ahead and fully enforce and execute a crackdown on homeowners

for their out-of-control weeds AND the city takes control of all of their own weeds, then maybe I would be happy to ban these chemicals, but until then I will continue to use them as needed.

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[Jack DeRoo](#) · Top Commenter

If it's one of the Thistle varieties that's on the noxious weed list, you can fill out the online form or call 311 to have the city order them removed/dealt with. See the city's website for the noxious weed list.

The farm chemical Lontrell is probably the best for taking out Thistle, but is not available at a retail level. Bonus would be it won't kill your lawn like roundup does.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [4](#) · June 18 at 4:58pm



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[Dana Lee Blackwell](#) · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · [Yoga Teacher](#) at [Art & Mind](#)

@Deborah I don't think one can call themselves an environmental steward while spraying Roundup in their yard. There are worse things than weeds.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [22](#) · June 18 at 7:00pm



o

[Jack DeRoo](#) · Top Commenter

@Dana Environmental stewardship need not be radical. Proper use, as per the label directions for a given chemical is reasonable. Besides, Deborah probably spot treats well before blanket application is needed, which prevents overuse of the chemical.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [9](#) · June 18 at 7:30pm

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[Kimberly Porlier](#)

Good for you Sheryl. It is a shame that people put a weed free space above the health and wellbeing of ourselves, children and pets. Some of you need to be ashamed of yourselves for the utter lack of respect you are showing this woman. She may not have a degree in pesticides but she obviously has more common sense and compassion than you. This is what the experts have to say;

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h_AHLDXF5aw#action=share

<http://foodintegritynow.org/2014/04/08/dr-don-huber-gmos-glyphosate-threat-humanity/>

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[Jack DeRoo](#) · Top Commenter

If you read the labels, you should not be applying so much chemical that your neighbour needs to reroute their air ducts - something isn't accurate here.

Second, let's say your property is covered in dandelions. You do one broadcast application to the lawn, which will get the majority, then spot spray for any new weeds that arise. Again, no need to spray so much that the neighbour thinks you're out to get them.

I stress again that the facts don't add up. Either the neighbour is intentionally spraying the property or there is some hyperbole on the part of the homeowner in the article. Looking at the photos, the evergreens could have been harmed by the winter we just had (freeze thaw cycles), the tomatoes weren't all damaged and there are more than a few underground items that will eat carrots.

I would suggest a little bit more investigation on the part of the reporter is needed.

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[Dana Lee Blackwell](#) · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · [Yoga Teacher](#) at [Art & Mind](#)

I know this lady and this is the true story. She has tried to talk to him about his over-use of the chemicals, to the point that he now thinks it is all a big joke. He

intentionally sprays just to piss her off, and has been doing so for years. He is malicious and uncooperative and it is causing her family health problems. She has done what she can do, and the City says they cannot help her.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [11](#) · June 18 at 6:57pm

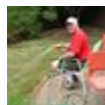


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[Jack DeRoo](#) · Top Commenter

Dana - a quick search with the google machine reveals that Sheryl is somewhat of an Eco activist of the more radical variety. So, I ask again, what's the rest of the story?

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [6](#) · June 18 at 10:11pm



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[Darwin Davidiuk](#) · [University of Alberta](#)

Rob Bright nothing wrong with roundup or killex.....other than the whackos that think there is. The dandelions and the environ nut cases are way to prevalent.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · June 19 at 1:10am

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[Dana Lee Blackwell](#) · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · [Yoga Teacher](#) at [Art & Mind](#)

It is a shame that people automatically think this is not a true story. Have you ever smelled the chemicals after they have been sprayed? It is disgusting. Now imagine having to smell them every day, knowing that they have been linked to disease and cancer. Have some compassion people. Which is more important - no weeds or good health?

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[Jack DeRoo](#) · Top Commenter

There is no need to spray every day (read the label and/or observe the outcomes after a single spraying) and you'll conclude there is more to this story. If you know the homeowner, then what is the other side of the story? What did she do to piss her neighbour off so badly that they are needlessly spraying very expensive chemical? If what you say is true and she has done nothing, then a conversation with a lawyer would have been the correct course of action, not one with a reporter.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [2](#) · June 18 at 7:25pm



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[Matthew Jaster](#) · [Gaia College](#)

If people are too lazy to pull up weeds, then don't garden, if you don't want weeds in your lawn, grow clover. Besides, a healthy lawn will be weed free, due to the allopathic and matting properties of grass roots killing off competition. Grasses are themselves a type of weed.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [8](#) · June 18 at 8:02pm



o

[Norah G Fon](#)

RESPONSE TO BLACKWELL -- THE STORY IS ABSOLUTELY AND TOTALLY FALSE ! THIS IS BEYOND ANY DOUBT.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · June 19 at 6:47pm



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[Joanne David](#) · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · Works at [Legacy TV Network](#)

Five years concerned citizens have written to City of Edmonton council members and mayor. FIVE years of no response, being negated, and treated basically like we do no matter. Does not matter if you are scientists, doctor, or just plain citizen. FIVE years no meeting despite hundreds of letters.. Wake up Edmonton this is not democracy.

www.facebook.com/LegacyTalkTV

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[Tony Mitra](#) · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · [Patha Bhavan, Santiniketan](#)

Canada needs to expend more energy into finding ways to straighten up a food chain and lawn cosmetic system that are now against the environment, micro organisms, flora and fauna as well as people.

Today, food that makes you sick, and the lawn care of your neighbour makes you sick and lets your trees go dead or fruits you grow get laced with poison.

The medical system takes more of your cash to keep you alive but does not address the root problems of where your illness comes from.

Sustainability goals have been thrown out the window in favour of profit making by a few poison selling corporations.

Neutral science is losing people far faster than gaining new ones. To find a good one, one may have to look outside of north America, things are so bad. One can cross check data used by Nancy Swanson in her graphs. One will find nothing to complain about the correlation or the data. The summary of health problems that might correlate with Roundup use is quite impressive and scary.

It should provide motivation enough to try to organize groups against pesticides and GMOs. More than the science itself, the problem is that it is new technology, not tested properly, and for now the goal pursued by is primarily profit-making and monopolizing the market rather than improving safety or environment. The philosophy comes mostly from creating greater needs of agrochemicals - most of these being pesticides.

The issue is also deeply rooted in political corruption of our nation as well as as a slew of other nations, and is turning out to be a global phenomena. Nations are signing away trade deals that give rights to foreign corporations to sue a nation if they try to curtail the sale of such nasty molecules.

Awareness raising is key - but not an end in itself. People have to wake up. People have to make short term sacrifices for the sake of long term survival and sustainability of our land and country, and for the future of our kids. People of Alberta and all provinces need to turn this toxic treadmill into a political platform that goes beyond individual party politics, and make a mass people's movement, because they are literally being poisoned just so some corporations can make money. I find no other sanitized way of saying this.

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[Norah G Fon](#)

Mitra is WRONG ! Not a single person has been shown to fall ill as a result of a proper application in the urban landscape. Mitra is spewing unverifiable and concocted evidence. If Miira somehow does have a legitimate claim of illness, a report should be made to Health Canada.

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[Melissa Richardson](#) · [University of the Fraser Valley](#)

Norah G Fon Reports have been made.

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[Karin Nelson](#) · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · [Edmonton, Alberta](#)

Norah G Fon So, what are your credentials for slamming all the people on here that are trying to clean up the mess we've made of the planet??

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[Kristine Kowalchuk](#) · Top Commenter · [University of Alberta](#)

Most of the people commenting on this thread need to read Rachel Carson's Silent Spring, and perhaps also ask themselves: who profits--the Cross Cancer Society from noting health dangers, or chemical companies who insist that herbicides and pesticides are safe? It is incredible how people are so easily and willingly duped.

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[Addison Babcock](#) · Top Commenter

CCS never noted any specific health problems. They only stated that the pesticides in question might be harmful, but they have no evidence to back it up. Those are very different claims.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [1](#) · June 18 at 7:06pm



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[Karin Nelson](#) · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · [Edmonton, Alberta](#)

Addison Babcock Glyphosate
N-(phosphonomethyl)glycine

General

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[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [2](#) · June 19 at 12:57pm



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[Norah G Fon](#)

CARSON & SILENT SPRING WERE SCIENTIFICALLY INACCURATE.

Rachel Carson recklessly wrote the notorious anti-pesticide book entitled Silent Spring while she was stricken and dying with breast cancer, which was diagnosed in spring 1960. While writing the book, she underwent radical mastectomy in April 1960, as well as radiation treatment. Given her own terminal state of health, Carson decided to WAIL ENDLESSLY about the supposed risks of chemicals in the environment, specifically DDT insecticide. In the minds of many observers, there is no doubt that Carson's illness tainted her views regarding chemicals. It is a known fact that while a person is dying due to a disease, the human mind often attempts to link the reason for the disease with a specific event or blunder.

Consequently, Silent Spring was scientifically inaccurate. Moreover, Carson had no competent background, training, or expertise in matters concerning pest control products. She was NOT COMPETENT to discuss pest control products.

In fact, Carson can only be described as a mere zoologist, spinster, and cancer victim. With the passage of time, it has become clear that Silent Spring was SEVERELY FLAWED. Most of the allegations in Silent Spring were ultimately shown to be SCIENTIFICALLY INACCURATE and FILLED WITH JUNK SCIENCE. Some observers maintain that Silent Spring was approximately two-thirds INCORRECT, and hence only one-third correct. Nonetheless, Carson became the FIRST Environmental-Terrorist and The Queen Of Junk Science. For more information regarding Carson, go to The Pesticide Truths Web-Site ... <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2SN>

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[April Reeves](#) · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · [UBC, BCIT, Van Tech, Kwantlen](#) · 233 followers

We fought for a pesticide ban in the lower mainland of BC and got it, unanimously. It seems the Mayors and council members are a bit more uneducated, benign or careless in Edmonton. Sad, since the rest of the world is light years ahead on such issues. Thanks Edmonton Journal for posting this; it's highly portent...

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[Norah G Fon](#)

NORAHG RESPONDS TO MIS-INFORMATION FROM REEVES

REEVES IS WRONG ! Reeves conveniently neglects to mention that the trend against pesticide bans continues in British Columbia, and across North America. On February 20th, 2013, legislation was introduced in British Columbia that would grant an exception status to businesses operating in the professional lawn care and golf industries. Only certified or licensed experts working within these industries are permitted to use pest control products in the urban landscape. The government of British Columbia made the right choice, and deserves congratulation. The government's decision was based upon the work of one of its special committees. On May 17th, 2012, British Columbia's Special Committee On Cosmetic Pesticides stopped the trend towards needless, senseless, and malicious prohibition. The Special Committee announced that it would not recommend prohibition against pest control products used in the urban landscape. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2c2> Despite whatever story is concocted by Reeves, British Columbia's decision confirms that the public rejects prohibition. This public attitude was also confirmed in a recent poll conducted by Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association (CCSPA). <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2bo> The poll confirmed that the vast majority of residents in British Columbia are opposed to the prohibition. The only people who want prohibition are a small group of activists with vested interests in concocting imaginary danger against pest control products. Moreover, contrary to what Reeves would lead the public into believing, there are dozens of jurisdictions that are stopping or rescinding or limiting anti-pesticide prohibition, or granting professional lawn care businesses with an exception status — Alberta (Province), Altona (Manitoba), Ashland (Oregon), Beaumont (Alberta), Belleville (Ontario), British Columbia (Province), Calgary (Alberta), Campbell River (British Columbia), Chicago (Illinois),

Durango (Colorado), Edmonton (Alberta), Everett (Washington), Guelph (Ontario), Guelph-Eramosa (Ontario), Kamloops (British Columbia), Kelowna (British Columbia), Merritt (British Columbia), New Brunswick (Province), Newfoundland & Labrador (Province), Ogunquit (Maine), Ontario (Beginning Of Repeal Of Ontario Anti-Pesticide Prohibition & Stopping Of Provincial Prohibition Against Neonicotinoid Insecticides), Port Alberni (British Columbia), Portage La Prairie (Manitoba), Prince Edward Island (Province), Quebec (Provincial Prohibition Invalidated When Lawsuit Defeated Ban), Regina (Saskatchewan), Rossland (British Columbia), Salmon Arm (British Columbia), Scarborough (Maine), Saint John's (Newfoundland & Labrador), Steinbach (Manitoba), Stuartburn (Manitoba), Vernon (British Columbia), Winkler (Manitoba). No one can afford the stunningly exorbitant costs of this #@!!% nonsense ! <http://wp.me/P1jq40-43V> REEVES IS WRONG ! The trends against pesticide bans are relentless and unceasing. <http://wp.me/P1jq40-1JO> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-6h1> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-81t> <http://wp.me/p1jq40-5ni> NORAHG is the National Organization Responding Against HUJE that seek to destroy the Green space industry. WILLIAM H. GATHERCOLE AND NORA H. G. Get the latest details at The Pesticide Truths Web-Site <http://pesticidetruths.com/> and go to The Complete Library Of Web-Pages, Reports, & References <http://wp.me/P1jq40-2rr>

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · June 18 at 9:26pm



o

[Melissa Richardson](#) · [University of the Fraser Valley](#)

Norah G Fon refers to herself in third person and spews corporate rhetoric at uninformed individuals looking for the easy way out. A likely shill with a crappy facebook page built to barf up The Agenda of chemical and biotech companies near you! Sure, little more than 60 years of pesticide use have sure done wonders for our health and the environment, indeed. All of the natural disasters and extreme rise in illness and disease are, surely, not connected, merely coincidental.

As someone who lives near a conventional farm and watches the cloud of pesticide and herbicide wash over their property, home and animals, who feels the burning caused by the 'harmless vapour' and ends up with allergy symptoms by that night, I have no doubt about Sheryl's claims. My field is spotted with blow-over patches where the plants of withered away while others have survived (usually dying weeks later), and yet there are no rights in place to protect me, only the Chemical companies, and you think there's no agenda? You think the person who pays the most doesn't get what they want, doesn't control the documentation provided to people? It's truly time to wake up

Remember, shut up, eat your ice cream and get back in line. Asking questions and thinking outside the box, realizing humans have thrived for thousands (if not hundreds of thousands) of years without the use of chemicals (proven anthropologically to have done so with far less disease), and attempting to care for the only home we have for the next few decades is UNACCEPTABLE. Would you like some glyphosate with that?[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [4](#) · [Edited](#) · June 19 at 9:01am



o

[April Reeves](#) · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · [UBC, BCIT, Van Tech, Kwantlen](#) · 233 followers

NORAGH is a man. That makes it even more ridiculous. And yes, the pesticide bans still exist. The only setback was Home Depot, in all it's foolishness, tried to put them back on the shelves. But Fon wouldn't know because he lives in Ontario. This man has sent me death threats, so don't take him with any level of seriousness. Sad that one person has to go to such low levels to keep beliefs that no longer serve him. If he was to TRY using clean products in his lawn care industry he might find a whole new set of clients willing to unload more money his way, but anger has him locked in destructive patterns. Let him be, the RCMP won't even bother with him.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [3](#) · June 19 at 9:50am



•

[Trish Emery Statham](#) · [Hair Stylist](#) at [The First](#)

I have never met Sheryl personally but have been reading her comments for a while on different groups and I can't imagine someone going to that extent to create a false story.

I have personally had the displeasure of breathing pesticides while driving through the city where I live. It burns the nose and throat and gives an aftertaste from breathing it in. I also suffered a headache the rest of the day. And that is driving by Someone in a full protective suite with a breathing apparatus having the wind blow it right at the cars driving by. You can close your windows and your vents but it still gets in. And you have no way to keep your babies from breathing it. So please tell me how that is beneficial? Not at all.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [5](#) · [Follow Post](#) · [June 18 at 7:36pm](#)



[Addison Babcock](#) · Top Commenter

If you don't want your neighbours using pesticides feel free to pull the weeds on your own. Otherwise it's time to calm down with the knee jerking.

Rerouting your air ducts? Come on that's just being ridiculous.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [5](#) · [Follow Post](#) · [Edited](#) · [June 18 at 3:52pm](#)



[Jack DeRoo](#) · Top Commenter

I agree - something doesn't add up here when the person is rerouting air ducts. There's more to this story.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [3](#) · June 18 at 5:00pm



[Dana Lee Blackwell](#) · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · [Yoga Teacher](#) at [Art & Mind](#)

Jack DeRoo This is a true story. I know Sheryl.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [3](#) · June 18 at 6:57pm



[Jack DeRoo](#) · Top Commenter

Sorry Dana, it doesn't pass the smell test. Really wish we could hear the neighbors side of this story.

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[Bruce Sullivan](#) · Top Commenter · [Retired](#) at [The Dow Chemical Company](#)

Worms in the carrots winter kill on the shrubs and frost on the tomato's really don't see how that justifies a herbicide ban.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [5](#) · [Follow Post](#) · [June 18 at 5:12pm](#)



o

[Jack DeRoo](#) · Top Commenter

Exactly - if chemical had been maliciously used, the entire evergreen would be dying, ALL the tomatoes would be dead (they are particularly sensitive plants) and the tops of the carrots would have been wilting and or brown. The evidence does not match the statement given.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [1](#) · [June 18 at 10:48pm](#)



o

[Karin Nelson](#) · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · [Edmonton, Alberta](#)

Glyphosate
N-(phosphonomethyl)glycine

General

Glyphosate is the active ingredient in Monsanto's Roundup™, and many other agricultural, forestry, and residential herbicides with the products names Rodeo™ and Pondmaster™, etc. It is a broad spectrum, non-selective systemic herbicide.

How It Works

Amazingly, the mode of action of glyphosate is not known. There is considerable research that points the potential that the pesticide inhibits the shikimic acid pathway, which prevents plants from synthesizing three aromatic amino acids. It has also been shown to inhibit the enzyme EPSP synthase[1] and a host of other enzymes in specific plant species.

Inert Ingredients

Commercial glyphosate is composed of a myriad of other chemicals all with the purpose of making the herbicide more easy to use. These products are generally not plac... [See More](#)

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [2](#) · June 19 at 12:59pm



o

[Bruce Sullivan](#) · Top Commenter · [Retired](#) at [The Dow Chemical Company](#)

You lost my interest at Sierra Club of Canada as the is just another group of activists that rely on fear mongering and made up science rather than actually scientific research and testing. It takes minimum 15 years of research for a chemical to reach market . How much research has the Seirra Club done an anything not one minute. It is very easy to spout big words and publish unproven data. If you think that we can feed the world without the use of modern farming methods give it ago and watch half the world population starve. Activist sheesh

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•

[Katherine L Basarabowich](#) · [Follow](#)

I agree I used to have a neighbor that was always spraying and I had to close my windows because I could tastethe smell in my mouth. He was an idiot and sprayed in the wind. I complained also and not much was done. My kids had to breath that in and some of my plants died. We told him off and phoned bylaw but he would always sneak around with roundup. I think they needsome spray up there you know what. People complain about smokers so chemicals should be banned totally.

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•

[Kim Johnston](#)

I used to be one of "those" people who sprayed my weeds. This year I decided to use just fertilizer to get my lawn healthier. I have come to accept the dandelions and clover as a fact of life. My neighbour gets out his gas powered herbicide sprayer and douses his lawn with chemicals. Mine is green and a bit of yellow from the dandelions and his has huge dead spots all over it. I laugh a little inside when I drive by and see the differences. Life has more important issues than weeds in the lawn. Maybe people who hate dandelions should pour some concrete for their yard. jmo :)

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[Chagall Ravenbrooke](#) · [Follow](#) · [Twin Lakes Secondary School](#)

It would be awesome if people would hire neighborhood children part-time for natural weed control. There aren't that many paper routes available these days and early work can be a great contributing factor to later career success. I know there are a lot of laws preventing exploitation of child labor but this is something that could be done in a non-exploitative way and encourage both financial education and work ethic early, while being better for the environment than chemical weedkillers.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [3](#) · [Follow Post](#) · [June 19 at 4:55am](#)



[Verdelle Hein](#) · [Manager](#) at [Healthcare and Rehab Specialties](#)

Ah come on, the problem with these type of reporting is it restricts our ability to use safe products due to ignorance of others. First, was he spraying a pesticide or herbicide, the Journal reporter seems confused? If it was a pesticide she has reason for concern. Second, if it was a herbicide, was it Roundup (small concern, as it is inert on contact with soil, or was it 24D (Killex), very soluble, certainly a problem in our watershed. This pissing match between neighbors should not influence government policy. Did Ontario ban many herbicides, yes, but considering the performance of the government, this is hardly a recommendation to do so in Alberta.

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o

[Karin Nelson](#) · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · [Edmonton, Alberta](#)

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[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [2](#) · June 19 at 12:58pm



•

[Joan Pletschet Carlson](#) · Top Commenter

We have a nice lawn connected to our townhouse. The business end of a large screwdriver takes care of any weeds.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [3](#) · [Follow Post](#) · [June 18 at 6:12pm](#)



•

[Amanda Kerr](#)

That's a shame that so many people don't respect or consider their neighbours. Lately I have heard many stories about awful neighbours. Are there any good ones out there anymore? I agree that weeding is time consuming and seems neverending but I'd rather do that than spray chemicals on them. It's only for a few months anyway then its time to shovel snow. Let's enjoy the short time we have in our gardens!

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [2](#) · [Follow Post](#) · [June 19 at 11:07am](#)



o

[Erwin Kadach](#) · [Edmonton, Alberta](#)

Poisoning the environment even more than we do seems to be a bad idea. We do have some good neighbours.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [1](#) · June 19 at 11:23am



o

[Jane Kevin Robertson](#)

I'm out every spring with my knife pulling 1/2 the dandelions on my lawn, since dandelions are usually the first thing that bees go to. I also have an attractive patch of clover that disappears when we cut the grass ;)

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [3](#) · June 19 at 12:24pm



•

[Chris Donahue](#) · Top Commenter

Sheesh... What else is there to complain about??
Paranoia!

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [2](#) · [Follow Post](#) · [June 18 at 3:45pm](#)



o

[Karin Nelson](#) · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · [Edmonton, Alberta](#)

Paranoia.!!?? It's time to get as many chemicals out of our environment as possible. If this was me, I'd be scared for my health as well. Scientists are finding glyphosate in human tissue and breast milk.

Glyphosate

N-(phosphonomethyl)glycine

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[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [2](#) · June 19 at 1:02pm



[Bruce Sullivan](#) · Top Commenter · [Retired](#) at [The Dow Chemical Company](#)

If you notice the dead grass along her side walk from the street salt used in the winter and also that the shrub is dying from the bottom up. Salt kills shrubs very easily as does over watering and under watering . Not removing the burlap from the rot ball when planting. Herbicide drift kills from the top down. As for the tomato's noticed how it is only the outside plants affected while the ones closest to the house are unaffected . It looks a lot like frost damage to me . And the carrots have violet root rot which leads to brown rotten spots on the carrot and the main carrier and host of this fungus is dandelions.<http://www.allotmentor.com/problems/view/violet-root-rot> I see no herbicide damage here.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [1](#) · [Follow Post](#) · [June 19 at 11:58am](#)



o

[Karin Nelson](#) · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · [Edmonton, Alberta](#)

Even though you're retired from a chemical company, you are still touting the party line.

Any study of cancer rates for people working for chemical companies??

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [3](#) · June 19 at 1:07pm



0

[Bruce Sullivan](#) · Top Commenter · [Retired](#) at [The Dow Chemical Company](#)

Lots a studies and lots of data too. From real people who have full medicals every two years.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · June 19 at 4:06pm



0

[Bruce Sullivan](#) · Top Commenter · [Retired](#) at [The Dow Chemical Company](#)

[Karin Nelson](#) And worked in the agriculture industry for 18 years and 33 years in the petrochemical industry. No party line just I base my thoughts on true facts rather than made up facts that fit the agenda of the day. And as every activist when someone challenges your facts you resort to personnel attacks because you can't back them up.

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•

[Tim Patrie](#) · Top Commenter · [NAIT](#)

“There’s an action in nuisance for dealing with when what one person is doing on their land is interfering with use and enjoyment of their neighbour’s land,” Klar said.

The same can be said for those neighbors that like to grow weeds and such in their yards and allowing the seeds to cross over into other yards.

Then there is this:

“Because of their potential for harm and because cosmetic pesticides do not provide any health benefits, we propose that municipal and provincial governments implement policies to ban their sale and use,”

They want it banned because of the "potential harm and has no health benefits"? The

same could be said for ice cream. Now maybe if they prove that there is harm that is different.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [1](#) · [Follow Post](#) · [June 18 at 5:25pm](#)



o

[Matthew Jaster](#) · [Gaia College](#)

If people are too lazy to pull up weeds, then don't garden, if you don't want weeds in your lawn, grow clover. Besides, a healthy lawn will be weed free, due to the allopathic and matting properties of grass roots killing off competition. Grasses are themselves a type of weed

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [1](#) · [June 18 at 8:04pm](#)



o

[Melissa Richardson](#) · [University of the Fraser Valley](#)

So, someone shows harm, related by timeline and/or event, and yet you say this? Tim, that doesn't make much sense. Grass is a cultivated weed that can look uniform and semetrical, able to be tamed repeatedly without stunting growth and forcing it to go to seed. It's a convenient way for things to seem 'perfect'.

When health impact incidents are put before you which you disregard, don't follow up with "Prove harm and it's different." The information you need to see an individual being harmed by it is here, this individual has been harmed, and is one of the few to speak up. Why would anyone want to speak up when they have to deal with posts like yours?

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [3](#) · [June 19 at 9:17am](#)



o

[Tim Patrie](#) · Top Commenter · [NAIT](#)

Melissa Richardson - well there is a simple solution then, offer to pull this man's weeds so he doesn't have to spray, problem solved.

I would also like to see the proof that there is a health problem (link please), just

because someone says so because they hate chemicals doesn't necessarily make it so - ask any lawyer. AS I stated ANYTHING is a potential risk to a person's health when used IN EXCESS - please read my last paragraph again. :p

Matthew Jaster - why is it that gold courses are still allowed to use chemicals that are not available on the general market for their weed control? If anyone, they should have healthy lawns and what about farmers? Do you expect them to pull all their weeds by hand or are they also "too lazy to pull up weeds"? BTW, since you are an expert in growing a perfect lawn, please send me your address so I can come over and see how you do it to have it 100% weed free without any chemicals (I am sure others would like to see this as well).

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [1](#) · June 19 at 10:56am

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•

[Doug Penner](#) · Top Commenter · [Operations Director/property manager](#) at [Penner](#)

Used green drop one summer and my lawn is good for a few years.

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o

[Doug Penner](#) · Top Commenter · [Operations Director/property manager](#) at [Penner](#)

Also have and use the weed hound tool

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · June 21 at 11:07am



•

[Phillip Ganshorn](#) · Top Commenter · [Owner and Water Jockey](#) at [Water Warehouse](#)

Lucy, I should not have to drive in traffic with that big diesel spewing soot, and I should not have to eat fish out the ocean where nuclear waste has leaked. The wind, oh the humanity...If I had an hyper sensitive fixation on the air quality and ground level pesticide and herbicide and fertilizer I'd by an acreage, and be done with it, rather than over dramatizing my concerns to a newspaper. Does she moan about the cars idling in the

winter and chemical for mosquitos dumped into the enviroment. How about the tap water with sodium flouride, chlorine, and trace metals. What aboht the 50 toxins in the smart car, or the batteries in everything. How about the BPA in the bottles she drinks out of, the list can go on indefinitely. In my personal opinion I wish we all had astroturf lawns, and I wish we did not have to spray. The neighbor or don't share her fixation, and from the way the article was written he was framed as the big evil, when the reality is she has tried to enforce her will. Im glad she is not my neighbor, I would tell her that if her for her and her family she should fins a place where she can have freedom from all the pollutants of a city.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [Follow Post](#) · [June 19 at 4:03pm](#)



[Joanne David](#) · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · Works at [Legacy TV Network](#)

I don't feel safe in my property, that is downwind of a NW wind. Heavy Chain smokers drift poison into my back yard. Cannot go outside when they smoke. City of Edmonton has no health policy on any health issue... and they will not even meet to discuss these health issues.. I and others have personally written to all counsellors and mayor.. even registered letters. No response. They apparently do not believe in communication outside of responding to legal action.

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[Phillip Ganshorn](#) · Top Commenter · [Owner and Water Jockey](#) at [Water Warehouse](#)

I'm sure the guy sprays as much as most people, and I say that if she has lived there for as long as she has, she should move. I don't mean it rudely, its seems like one guy is exercize his freedom to do as he wishes on his property, and one person who is sensitive. Welcome to neighbor dynamics. My neighbor exercizes her freedom to have a dog with a propensity for trying to eat me, nothing I can bout it.

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o

[Lucy Fischetti Nickel](#) · Top Commenter

One should not have to move because of an incompetent, rude, uncaring, ignorant neighbour. He is not only harming her's and her families health, but also the surrounding area, soil, ecosystem etc. etc. There is wind drift also. It's not even a matter of being sensitive to it, we humans should never be exposed to these toxic poisons, including himself, it is not healthy!

<http://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/tx800218n>

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [2](#) · [Edited](#) · June 19 at 12:47am



o

[Karin Nelson](#) · [Follow](#) · Top Commenter · [Edmonton, Alberta](#)

She should NOT have to move. The city should be taking action to protect it's citizens. It's time to get as many chemicals out of our environment as possible. If this was me, I'd be scared for my health as well. Scientists are finding glyphosate in human tissue and breast milk. They are ONLY weeds for crying out loud folks!

Glyphosate
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[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [3](#) · June 19 at 1:08pm



•

[Glyn Williams](#) · Top Commenter · [Champlain College - Lennoxville](#)

Pesticides are regulated by Alberta Environment and Health Canada, so it shouldn't be considered a City of Edmonton issue! I would of thought that the Edmonton Journal would have known this?

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[Bruce Sullivan](#) · Top Commenter · [Retired](#) at [The Dow Chemical Company](#)

The carrots have violet rot which leads to a brownish rot. One of the hosts of this fungus is dandelions. <http://www.allotmentor.com/problems/view/violet-root-rot>

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [Follow Post](#) · [June 19 at 9:09am](#)



o

[Matthew Jaster](#) · [Gaia College](#)

Dandelions are a bio accumulator of calcium, they are known to infest calcium deficient soils, helping restore the calcium levels in the soil. They have even done studies, growing dandelion in acidic soils completely devoid of any calcium, and the dandelions still produce calcium. If utilized as a cover crop plant, dandelions can be used to restore calcium deficient, acidic soils, if kept mowed to prevent seed setting, they will not become a weedy pest. Plants have their cons and pros. Gooseberry and Currants are a host to a fungal disease that kills 5 needle pine trees, yet I know people whom grow both side by side, with ZERO problems.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 15 hours ago



o

[Bruce Sullivan](#) · Top Commenter · [Retired](#) at [The Dow Chemical Company](#)

Well then don't complain about violet root rot in your root vegetables and blame it on your neighbor using killex. Dandelions are a host of this fungus. If dandelions are contained they do have there values but they are not contained and have little to no food value for livestock and they are destroying millions of acres of grazing land. Just because they some of these plants look pretty in your garden it does not mean that they are good for the environment as they are invasive species that choke out the natural vegetation. And they are not native to North America.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · 13 hours ago

0



[Matthew Jaster](#) · [Gaia College](#)

Being a host for a fungus, and the fungus thriving are two different things. If you have a healthy soil biology, full of beneficial aerobic microbes then you will not have root rot problems. The fungal spores for root rot are in the environment regardless of whether or not dandelions are in the vicinity, fungal spores can last for years waiting for the right conditions to thrive. So to blame dandelions for root rot problems is ridiculous, if the conditions are right for root rot to thrive, it will thrive. The spores are there just waiting, just like any other fungal disease, such as powdery mildew.

Dandelions are a healthy leafy green, full of calcium and various other nutrients/minerals, there are many herbivorous animals which will and do consume dandelions. They are not an invasive species that are destroying grazing lands. However, superweeds that are resistant or immune to glyphosate and other herbicides (like Hogweed or Palmer Amaranth) are destroying grazing/crop land, and in some cases farm machinery even. The three major reasons for superweeds becoming a problem are:

Monoculture. Growing the same crop on the same land year after year helps weeds to flourish.

Overreliance on a single herbicide. When farmers use Roundup exclusively, resistance develops more quickly.

Neglect of other weed control measures. The convenience of the Roundup Ready system encouraged farmers to abandon a range of practices that had been part of their weed control strategy.

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[Cameron Smith](#) · Top Commenter · [Sherwood Park, Alberta](#)

He will probably start growing tumours from spraying the shit all the time . Relax lady he will long gone by next spring . Lol

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [Follow Post](#) · [June 19 at 10:03am](#)

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[GF Kristie](#)

Unfortunately his spraying could effect her long term health as well...

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [1](#) · June 19 at 3:55pm

•



[Tony Marshall](#) · [Follow](#) · Works at [Nova Chemicals](#)

Love this! And brave people who take a stand.

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · [Follow Post](#) · [June 19 at 6:07pm](#)

0



[Patricia Hamilton Giannakopoulos](#) · Works at [Montessori School](#)

I love that you love this, [Tony Marshall](#)!

[Reply](#) · [Like](#) · June 20 at 4:24pm