

Scientist: Chicago park pesticide use reduction is chemophobia

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Hank Campbell, president of the American Council on Science and Health and author of the book [The Science Left Behind](#), recently told the *Chicago City Wire* that [there is nothing to worry about](#) regarding pesticide use. His remarks came after the Chicago city Park District decided for the eighth year in a row to reduce pesticide use at the 600 city parks under the agency's jurisdiction.

Modern versions that use coated seeds (i.e. neonicotinoids), Campbell says, are much better for humans than spray pesticides. He points out the older spray versions do more harm than the neonic pesticides and the EPA has already done research determining that bees exposed to neonics do not suffer long term harm. This as opposed to the spray versions in which bees are adversely affected over a long period of time.

There aren't going to be any threats for humans, Campbell told Chicago City Wire. People have been trained to be chemophobes; 'chemical' is now a bad word.

Campbell said that if pesticides are banned it should be based on an informed decision but the city of Chicago Park District is trying to solve a problem that doesn't exist.

Despite the claims of a beepocalypse, bee populations [are at an all time high](#). Environmentalist chemophobia is one other manner greens use to make the case to ban or restrict the use of pesticides that are used to protect crop yields from insect infestations so food production is plentiful. However, in this case, this is one other way environmentalists, in theory, seek to make people's lives miserable by exposing humans and even animals to more insect attacks.