

What you can do to protect our drinking water and the health of your family and neighbors:

- Stop using all chemical pesticides (insecticides, herbicides and fungicides) on your lawn.
- Learn more about sound cultural practices, including less toxic and nontoxic lawn care and pest control.
- Read the label of all lawn care products.
- Avoid fertilizers containing insecticides or herbicides.

If you have a lawn care service or a pest control service:

- Find out what chemicals they apply to your lawn, fruit trees, ornamentals and foundation.
- Get the label and technical data for all products they use on your lawn.
- Insist on nontoxic lawn care and pest control – only the biorationals (horticultural oils, insecticidal soaps, and *Bacillus Thuringiensis* products).
- If your present service can't provide nontoxic lawn care, switch to one that can.
- Remember that none of the EPA-registered chemical pesticides are "safe."

All pesticide products contain active ingredients that are biocides designed to kill. They also contain "inert" ingredients that may be toxic. Some "inerts" themselves are the active ingredient in other pesticide products. Many other "inerts" are hazardous air and water pollutants, some assessed as "extremely hazardous." Other "inerts" are Toxic Release Inventory chemicals, known or suspected carcinogens, or regarded as occupational hazards. Toxic chemicals are used as inert ingredients in pesticide products. Some "inerts" may be more toxic than the active ingredient in the product.

Active and inert ingredients in lawn care pesticides (insecticides, herbicides and fungicides) contaminate drinking water.

If you live in the watershed of a reservoir that provides water for a community, you should not use any chemical pesticides or fertilizers outdoors. Not only do the pesticides pollute the reservoir, but also the runoff from fertilizer puts excess nitrogen in the reservoir water, promoting algae growth. Herbicides and other toxic chemicals have to be added to the reservoir to kill the algae.

FACT

Facts about Alternatives to Chemical Trespassing, Inc.
PO Box 5922, Sarasota FL 34277-5922
a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization
working to stop urban pesticide pollution

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DRINKING WATER

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