BEYOND PESTICIDES

Collaborating with Communities

ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY | JULY 2021-JUNE 2022

ith all the upheaval in the world, we focus our resources and strategic partnerships on foundational change through our community-based work to move communities away from toxic, fossil fuelbased pesticides and fertilizers—as we put in place land and building management programs for a sustainable future. The framework for change that we teach and advocate is focused on the existential crises of our day caused or exacerbated by petrochemical pesticides and fertilizers—the threats to a livable future with out-of-control diseases, biodiversity collapse, and the climate emergency. The intersection of these catastrophic problems, both their causes and their solutions, forms the foundation of our analysis and action strategy to move society to eliminate toxic pesticides and fertilizers in the next decade.

Our Call for the End of Toxic Pesticides Is Borne Out of Our History

Yes, we are working to speed up the transition to organic systems. Organic is growing—but not fast enough. Our 41-year history has taught us that further tinkering with failed approaches to regulating allowable hazards associated with pesticides has not moved us fast

Our Message Meets the Challenges

- Adopt Meaningful Change with Urgency
- Empower Action with Science
- End Disproportionate Harm
- Embrace Organic as the Solution

enough to management systems that are not reliant on toxic substances. In fact, the approach of individual chemical campaigns outside of systemic change has kept us on a treadmill of chemical use as our society has moved through the generations of highly toxic pesticides.

Our Strategies Empower Action

Eliminate Petrochemical Pesticides

and Fertilizers. Our educational work takes many forms and meets people and communities where they are. To do this, we maintain up-to-date databases with thousands of studies that inform action strategies that eliminate toxic pesticides and fertilizers.

Transition to Organic with Hands-on

Support. We provide hands-on support to advocates and local municipalities. Through this work, we create models for ending petrochemical pesticide and fertilizer use in policy and practice—through the organic management of community parks, playing fields, and open space.

Keep Organic Strong. We are working to make organic mainstream. To ensure the integrity of organic, we work to uphold the principles and values of the standards that govern the definition of organic behind the USDA organic food seal and the required inspection and certification process.

Adopt a Holistic Model Policy. Our experience with strategies that work and meaningful change informs model local policy that bans toxic pesticides



DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT THIS YEAR 221,310 website visitors

2021 visitors from the U.S. and 208 countries worldwide

ACTION OF THE WEEK 25,000+ subscribers

and fertilizers and defines allowable materials compatible with organic systems.

Network and Educate. We maintain a unique program that directly interacts daily with the public. Our open phone lines and direct email access allow people to talk with us about the issues they are facing and strategize on moving to a solution.

Organic Land Management

Parks for a Sustainable Future. Our *Parks for a Sustainable Future* program provides in-depth training to assist community land managers to transition demonstration sites, including playing fields and parks, to organic landscape management. Through the pilot sites, we provide land managers with the knowledge and skills necessary to transition all public land in their municipality to organic practices.

Tracking Science, Policy, and Action

Daily, the program tracks the science that informs action with numerous databases (*Gateway on Pesticide Hazards and Safe Pest Management*, *Pesticide-Induced Diseases Database*, *What the Science Shows*—on pollinators, and *ManageSafe*), housed on the Beyond Pesticides website, that are accessible



Portsmouth, New Hampshire demonstration site.

to the public and decision makers. We continue to track scientific studies on specific pesticides like the weed killer glyphosate- contributing to local use restrictions-that document critical scientific issues and alert the public to the threat of pesticide use more generally. We reached over 50,000 people in all the states and dozens of countries worldwide. While specific chemicals are highlighted to indicate the deficiencies in regulatory protections, the program has provided continuous tracking of hundreds of scientific studies, adverse effects to people, the environment, and pollinators, as well as the crosscutting impacts on biodiversity and the climate crisis.

Intersectional and Transformational Change

Connecting petrochemical pesticides to crises in health, biodiversity, and climate. Our work in this area over the last year is organized into nine sections:

- Pesticides Tied to Widespread Health Threats, Adding to the Body of Science: Human Illness;
- 2. Pesticides Wreak Havoc on Ecosystems, Adding to the Body of Science: Ecosystem Decline;

- Studies Show Pesticide Exposure to Be Insidious, Adding to the Body of Science: Widespread Exposure;
- 4. **Disproportionate Pesticide Harm Is Racial Injustice,** Documenting Victimization: Structural Racism;
- 5. **Regulatory and Statutory Failures Inflict Harm,** Documenting Government Capture by Industry: Government Neglect;
- 6. Localities and States Face
 Challenges Ignored by Fed—
 Taking Protective Action, Local
 Empowerment;
- Courts Serve as Venue for Corporate and Government Accountability, Acting in the Public Interest: Legal Redress;
- 8. **Research Shatters Myth of Pesticide Benefits,** Documenting Unreasonable Risks: Sustainable Alternatives;
- 9. Organic Management Practices Ensure a Sustainable Future, Fighting for a Livable Planet: Ecosystem Conservation.

Center for Community Pesticide and Alternatives Information

The Center is the place where people and organizations, elected officials, and government managers





Beyond Pesticides, The Black Institute, Osborne Organics, and Stonyfield field visit at demonstration park site with New York City Parks Department staff. Beyond Pesticides/Jay Feldman

and staff can contact us for information and strategic brainstorming. This is where we house our databases, produce publications, post our *Daily News*, and disseminate *Action of the Week*. It is also the place where we bring people together and provide an opportunity to meet leading scientists, organic practitioners, and activists, including the **39th National Forum Series: Health, Biodiversity, and Climate—A Path for a Livable Future**.

Stopping Biodiversity Collapse

Managing landscapes and ecosystems with biodiversity. We address the decline in pollinators as a crucial part of the crisis leading to the collapse of biodiversity. To that end, we support efforts in the states to adopt legislation that seeks to support pollinators through the establishment and protection of habitat and the restriction of pesticides.

Strategic Publications and Communication

Informing Action. Beyond Pesticides communications strategy continues to provide people, organizations, and influencers in their community with the information that is needed to effect change.

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BEYOND PESTICIDES

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GIVE TODAY for a sustainable future without

toxic pesticides and fertilizers! **beyondpesticides.org/donate** *All donations are tax-deductible.*