

# Healthy Hives, Healthy Lives, Healthy Land

## Ecological and Organic Strategies for Regeneration

### The 35th National Pesticide Forum

April 28–29, 2017

University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

CONVENED BY:



INSTITUTE ON THE  
ENVIRONMENT

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
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CO-SPONSORED BY: Beyond Pesticides Minnesota, Birchwood Cafe, Blue Fruit Farm, Clean Up the River Environment (CURE), Giving Tree Gardens, Humming for Bees, Kids for Saving Earth, Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Services, Midwest Pesticide Action Center, Minnesota Food Association, Pesticide Action Network North America, Pollinate Minnesota, Pollinator Friendly Alliance, Seward Community Co-op, Students for Sustainability, The Beez Kneez, and White Earth Land Recovery Project

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## The 35th National Pesticide Forum

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### FRIDAY, APRIL 28

- 11:30am–4:30pm **Organic Farm & Beehive Tour**  
4:00–6:30pm **Registration**  
4:30–5:30pm **Pesticides 101**  
5:30–10:30pm **Welcome and Keynote**  
5:30–6:30pm Reception  
6:30–7:15pm Welcome  
7:15–7:45pm Keynote: Jim Riddle  
7:45–8:45pm Keynote: Liz Carlisle, Ph.D., Lentil Underground, David Oien  
8:45–10:30pm Reception and Book Signing

### SATURDAY, APRIL 29

- 8:00–8:30am **Breakfast & Registration**  
8:30–11:00am **Welcome & Keynotes**  
8:30–8:45am Welcome  
8:45–9:10am Keynote: Don Huber, Ph.D.  
9:10–9:35am Keynote: Vera Krischik, Ph.D.  
9:35–10:20am Pesticides: Environmental Health Effects, the Law, and Community: Warren Porter, Ph.D., Amy van Saun, J.D., Robert Shimek  
10:20–11:00am Keynote: David Montgomery, Ph.D.  
11:00–11:15am **Break** (move to workshops)  
11:15am–12:45pm **Workshops I**  
Environmental Health: Issues and Answers • Bees, Pollinators, and Biodiversity • Threatened Waters: Protecting Watersheds • Soil Health through Regenerative Practices  
12:45–2:45pm **Lunch and Keynotes**  
12:45–1:40pm Lunch served  
1:40–1:55pm Mayor Betsy Hodges  
1:55–2:15pm Minnesota State Representative Rick Hansen  
2:15–2:45pm Keynote: Jeff Lowenfels  
2:45–3:45pm **Adopting Organic Land Management Practices**  
Panel: Chip Osborne, Lani Malmberg; Questioning Invasives: Mark Davis, Ph.D.  
3:45–4:00pm **Break** (move to workshops)  
4:00–5:30pm **Workshops II**  
The Essentiality of Seed Purity and Sovereignty • Organic Land and Invasive Management: From Playing Fields to Farms • Strategies for Local Action • Leveraging the Law for Health and the Environment  
5:30–7:00pm **Dinner**  
7:00–10:30pm **Panel, Keynote & Reception**  
7:00–8:00pm The Leading Edge of Community-Based Change  
Panel: Lex Horan, Laurie Schneider, Patricia Hauser, Bruce Bacon  
8:00–8:45pm Keynote: Jeff Moyer  
8:45–10:30pm Reception and Book Signing

## A Call to the Conference

Complex biological communities support life. With this understanding, we advocate for practices and policies that are sustainable and regenerative, create resiliency, and nurture healthy interactive organisms in the web of life. We rely on the best independent scientific knowledge available, recognize uncertainties when they arise, and choose the path that is most protective of health and the environment. The decline of pollinators is a clarion call to action, as it reflects a regulatory system that is out of touch with the effects of turning habitat into pesticide-laden killing fields, poisoning our waterways, and destroying ecological balance.

Most indicators tell a story of growing success in increasing the adoption of ecologically sensitive practices—the growth of the organic food and landscape sectors, and efforts to protect pollinators. Still, chemical-intensive practices and policies enable widespread use of hazardous substances, undermining efforts to achieve food safety, clean water and air, worker health, safeguards for the most vulnerable, climate protection, and enhanced biodiversity. Yet, there is daily proof that toxic chemicals are not necessary to achieve community and societal goals—productive agriculture, aesthetic landscapes, pest-free buildings, and expected quality of life.

Modern life brings with it the challenges associated with respecting nature and partnering with ecosystem services, such as pollination and soil microbiota cycling of nutrients. Rather than science driving federal and most state regulatory decisions, chemical industry interests drive the regulatory decisions on pesticides and genetic engineering. Against the backdrop of a federal government that is turning away from science, local communities and states must and are taking up the mantle to sustain life.

We gather at the Forum to strengthen our knowledge and the voice we bring to our communities and advocacy before town, city, and county councils and state legislatures. Our call for action advances and protects standards for organic, sustainable, and regenerative practices in the management of public lands, parks, playing fields, open space, school yards, forests, and farms.

The link between the adverse effect of toxic pesticides on soil microbiota and gut microbiome in humans raises critical questions about the origins of numerous 21st century diseases. This, on top of escalating insect, weed, fungal, and bacterial resistance to pesticides, identifies a clear urgency for a transformation from current chemical-intensive land management practices—whether labeled responsible, clean, or natural—to organic. Supported by the knowledge at this Forum and collective community action, we are in the midst of a societal shift to organic, which must continue with accountability and increased urgency. Thanks for joining us at *Healthy Hives, Healthy Lives, Healthy Land*.



Jay Feldman  
Executive Director, Beyond Pesticides



Routt Reigart, M.D.  
Board President, Beyond Pesticides

# Healthy Hives, Healthy Lives, Healthy Land

## The 35th National Pesticide Forum

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### FRIDAY, APRIL 28

#### 11:30AM-4:30PM

- **Organic Farm and Beehive Tour** [Meet at UMN Humphrey School lobby]  
**Beehive tour**, *Erin Rupp, executive director, Pollinate Minnesota, at Urban Roots;*  
**Organic farm tour**, *May Lee, farmer, Mhonpaj's Garden, Minnesota Food Association*

#### 4:00PM

- **Registration begins** [Humphrey School lobby]

#### 4:30-5:30PM

- **Pesticides 101** [Humphrey Forum room]  
**Caroline Cox**, *research director, Center for Environmental Health; board member, Beyond Pesticides; Oakland, CA*  
**Melinda Hemmelgarn, R.D.**, *registered dietician, "investigative" nutritionist and advocate; board member, Beyond Pesticides, Columbia, MO*  
**Lorna Donaldson**, *moderator, founder, Silvertop Institute; board member, Beyond Pesticides; Tiptonville, TN*

#### 5:30-6:30PM

- **Reception** with hors d'oeuvres [Atrium]

#### 5:45-6:00PM

**Screening, Prairie Horizons 2017: A farm in crisis.** A short film about Prairie Horizons Farm and the story of Mary Jo and Luverne Forbord. [Humphrey Forum room]

#### 6:30-7:15PM

- **Welcome** [Cowles Auditorium]  
**Jay Feldman**, *executive director, Beyond Pesticides, Washington, DC*  
**Roult Reigart, M.D.**, *professor emeritus, pediatrics, Medical University of South Carolina; board president, Beyond Pesticides; Charleston, SC*  
**Ronnie Cummins**, *International Director, Organic Consumers Association, Finland, MN*

#### 7:15-7:45PM

- **Keynote: Charting an Organic Future—The Challenges and Successes, Past and Future** [Cowles Auditorium]  
**Jim Riddle**, *organic farmer, Blue Fruit Farm, Winona, MN*

## FRIDAY, APRIL 28 CONTINUED

7:45–8:45PM

■ **Keynote: The Lentil Underground** [Cowles Auditorium]

**Liz Carlisle, Ph.D.**, author, *Lentil Underground*, Stanford University, Stanford, CA

**David Oien**, president and founding farmer, *Timeless Seeds*, Ulm, MT

**Jay Feldman**, moderator, executive director, *Beyond Pesticides*, Washington, DC

8:45–10:30PM

■ **Reception and *Lentil Underground* book signing** [Atrium]

## SATURDAY, APRIL 29

8:00–8:30AM

■ **Organic Continental Breakfast** [Atrium]

8:30–8:45AM

■ **Welcome** [Cowles Auditorium]

**Jay Feldman**, executive director, *Beyond Pesticides*, Washington, DC

**Routt Reigart, M.D.**, professor emeritus of pediatrics, Medical University of South Carolina; board president, *Beyond Pesticides*; Charleston, SC

8:45–9:10AM

■ **Keynote: Disrupting the Integrity of Nature—  
Pesticides and Genetic Engineering** [Cowles Auditorium]

**Don Huber, Ph.D.**, professor emeritus, plant pathology, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

9:10–9:35AM

■ **Keynote: Bees, Pollinators, and Biodiversity** [Cowles Auditorium]

**Vera Krischik, Ph.D.**, associate professor, Department of Entomology, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

**Routt Reigart, M.D.**, moderator, professor emeritus of pediatrics, Medical University of South Carolina; board president, *Beyond Pesticides*; Charleston, SC

9:35–10:20AM

■ **Pesticides: Environmental Health Effects, the Law,  
and Community** [Cowles Auditorium]

**Amy van Saun, J.D.**, legal fellow, Center for Food Safety, Portland, OR

**Robert Shimek**, executive director, White Earth Land Recovery Project, Callaway, MN

**Warren Porter, Ph.D.**, moderator, professor, Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin-Madison; board member, *Beyond Pesticides*; Madison, WI

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## SATURDAY, APRIL 29 CONTINUED

10:20–11:00AM

### ■ **Keynote: Sustaining Life: From Soil Microbiota to Gut Microbiome** [Cowles Auditorium]

**David Montgomery, Ph.D.**, professor, Earth and Space Sciences, University of Washington, Seattle, WA

**Terry Shistar, Ph.D.**, moderator, board member, Beyond Pesticides; Lawrence, KS

11:00–11:15AM

### ■ **Short break, please move to workshops**

Workshops will be held in Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Forum room, and rooms 180 and 215. Please move to workshops quickly as sessions will begin promptly at 11:15am.

11:15AM–12:45PM

## WORKSHOPS I

### ■ **Environmental Health: Issues and Answers** [Cowles Auditorium]

Continuing from the environmental health plenary, an in-depth discussion on the latest science on pesticides and their impact on human health. Connect with scientists and experts for an in-depth discussion on the latest research.

**Don Huber, Ph.D.**, professor emeritus, plant pathology, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

**Robert Shimek**, executive director, White Earth Land Recovery Project, Callaway, MN

**David Montgomery, Ph.D.**, professor, Earth and Space Sciences, University of Washington, Seattle, WA

**Warren Porter, Ph.D.**, professor, Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin-Madison; board member, Beyond Pesticides; Madison, WI

**Routt Reigart, M.D.**, moderator, professor emeritus, pediatrics, Medical University of South Carolina; board president, Beyond Pesticides; Charleston, SC

### ■ **Bees, Pollinators, and Biodiversity** [Humphrey Forum Room]

Continuing from the plenary on pollinator decline and threats to predatory insects, biodiversity, and the stability of ecosystems. Participate in an in-depth discussion with scientists, a journalist, and advocates on the current research and future challenges.

**Vera Krischik, Ph.D.**, associate professor, Department of Entomology, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

**Maggie Douglas, Ph.D.**, postdoctoral scholar, Department of Entomology, Penn State University, University Park, PA

**Josephine Marcotty**, environmental investigative reporter, Star Tribune, Minneapolis, MN

**Rella Abernathy, Ph.D.**, moderator, IPM Coordinator, City of Boulder; board member, Beyond Pesticides; Boulder, CO

## SATURDAY, APRIL 29 CONTINUED

### ■ **Threatened Waters: Protecting Watersheds** [Room 215]

Water quality issues are critically tied to environmental and human health in Minnesota, throughout the Midwest, and across the country. Discuss the impacts of chemical-intensive agriculture and land management on the safety and sustainability of waterways.

**Duane Ninneman**, *executive director, CURE, Montevideo, MN*

**Michelle Hladik, Ph.D.**, *environmental organic chemist, U.S. Geological Survey, Sacramento, CA*

**William Arnold, Ph.D.**, *associate department head, Department of Civil, Environmental, and Geo-Engineering, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN*

**Paul Wotzka**, *independent hydrologist and consultant, Weaver, MN*

**Nichelle Harriott**, *science and regulatory director, Beyond Pesticides, Washington, DC*

**Melinda Hemmelgarn, R.D.**, *moderator, registered dietician, board member, Beyond Pesticides; Columbia, MO*

### ■ **Soil Health through Regenerative Practices** [Room 180]

In land-based ecosystems, biodiversity, carbon sequestration, and pest management begins with healthy soils. Discuss principles, research, and specific practices for building soil health, with a focus on organic systems.

**David Oien**, *president, Timeless Seeds, Ulm, MT*

**Jim Riddle**, *former chair, USDA National Organic Standards Board, owner/operator of Blue Fruit Farm, Winona, MN*

**Jeff Lowenfels**, *author, Teaming with Microbes, Anchorage, AK*

**John Mesko**, *executive director, MOSES, Spring Valley, WI*

**Terry Shistar, Ph.D.**, *moderator, board member, Beyond Pesticides; Lawrence, KS*

### 12:45–2:45PM

#### ■ **Lunch and Keynotes** [Atrium]

Lunch will be served at 12:45pm, before the plenary speakers begin at 1:40pm.

### 1:40–1:55PM

#### ■ **Mayor Betsy Hodges, City of Minneapolis**

### 1:55–2:15PM

#### ■ **Keynote: Advancing State Law to Protect Environmental Health**

**Minnesota State Representative Rick Hansen**

**Laurie Schneider**, *moderator, co-executive director, Pollinator Friendly Alliance, Stillwater, MN*

— CONTINUED —

## SATURDAY, APRIL 29 CONTINUED

### 2:15–2:45PM

#### ■ **Keynote: Teaming with Nature** [Atrium]

**Jeff Lowenfels**, *author, Teaming with Microbes, Anchorage, AK*

**Lani Malmberg**, *moderator, Goat Green, board member, Beyond Pesticides; Cheyenne, WY*

### 2:45–3:45PM

#### ■ **Adopting Organic Land Management Practices** [Cowles Auditorium]

**Chip Osborne**, *president, Osborne Organics; board member, Beyond Pesticides; Marblehead, MA*

**Lani Malmberg**, *Goat Green; board member, Beyond Pesticides; Cheyenne, WY*

#### **Questioning Invasives**

**Mark Davis**, *Ph.D., DeWitt Wallace Professor, Biology, Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN*

**Colehour Bondera**, *moderator, organic farmer, Kanalani Ohana Farm; board member, Beyond Pesticides; Honaunau, HI*

### 3:45–4:00PM

#### ■ **Short Break, please move to workshops**

Workshops will be held in Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Forum room, and rooms 180 and 215. Please move to workshops quickly as sessions will begin promptly at 4:00pm.

### 4:00–5:30PM

## WORKSHOPS II

#### ■ **The Essentiality of Seed Purity and Sovereignty** [Room 180]

Access to seeds that are compatible with ecosystem health is a critical goal. Join a discussion of strategies to protect the integrity of the seed supply with a seed producer and advocates working to ensure seed purity and sovereignty.

**Jack Kloppenburg, Ph.D.**, *professor emeritus, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI*

**Zachary Paige**, *program coordinator, Upper Midwest Indigenous Seed Keeper Network, Ames, Iowa*

**Mac Ehrhardt**, *owner, Albert Lea Seed, Albert Lea, MN*

**Brett Ramey**, *moderator, director, Doris Duke Conservation Scholars Program, University of Washington; board member, Beyond Pesticides; Seattle, WA*

## SATURDAY, APRIL 29 CONTINUED

### ■ **Organic Land and Invasive Management: From Playing Fields to Farms**

[Cowles Auditorium]

Continuing the plenary with an in-depth discussion on how to implement organic management of playing fields, parks, home landscapes, open space, and rangeland. Apply the knowledge and experience of panelists to your community.

**Mark Davis, Ph.D.**, *DeWitt Wallace Professor of Biology, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN*

**Chip Osborne**, *president, Osborne Organics; board member, Beyond Pesticides; Marblehead, MA*

**Lani Malmberg**, *Goat Green; board member, Beyond Pesticides; Cheyenne, WY*

**Stephen Gregg**, *ecological landscaper, Mother Earth Gardens, Minneapolis, MN*

**Russ Henry**, *owner, Giving Tree Gardens, Minneapolis, MN*

**Colehour Bondera**, *moderator, organic farmer, Kanalani Ohana Farm; board member, Beyond Pesticides; Honaunau, HI*

### ■ **Strategies for Local Action** [Humphrey Forum Room]

Inadequate regulation at the federal and state level requires localities to take action for public health and the environment. Discuss the strategies needed to pass and implement effective pesticide policies to protect your community.

**Erin Rupp**, *executive director, Pollinator Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN*

**Ruth Kerzee**, *executive director, Midwest Pesticide Action Center, Chicago, IL*

**Shaina Kasper**, *Vermont state director, Toxics Action Center, Montpelier, VT*

**Mark Liebaert**, *chair, Douglas County Board of Supervisors, Superior, WI*

**Drew Toher**, *moderator, community resource and policy director, Beyond Pesticides, Washington, DC*

### ■ **Leveraging the Law for Health and the Environment** [Room 215]

Panelists will discuss the laws governing pesticide use and organic standards, as well as litigation strategies to advance protection from pesticides and false product label claims. Hear from a farmer who successfully sued to stop pesticide drift.

**Amy van Saun, J.D.**, *legal fellow, Center for Food Safety, Portland, OR*

**Rosemary Bilchak**, *organic farmer, Hotchkiss, CO*

**Kim Richman, J.D.**, *founding attorney, Richman Law Group, Brooklyn, NY*

**Paula Dinerstein, J.D.**, *general counsel, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, Washington, DC*

**Annie D'Amato, J.D.**, *moderator, legal and policy associate, Beyond Pesticides, Washington, DC*

## 5:30–7:00PM

### ■ **Dinner** [Atrium]

— CONTINUED —

## **SATURDAY, APRIL 29** CONTINUED

**7:00–8:45PM**

- **Panel and Keynotes** [Cowles Auditorium]

**7:00–8:00PM**

- **Panel: The Leading Edge of Community-Based Change**

**Lex Horan**, *Organizer, Pesticide Action Network North America, Minneapolis, MN*

**Laurie Schneider**, *co-executive director, Pollinator Friendly Alliance, Stillwater, MN*

**Patricia Hauser**, *co-founder, Humming for Bees, Shorewood, MN*

**Bruce Bacon**, *organic farmer, Garden Farme, Ramsey, MN*

**Pat Kerrigan**, *moderator, organic standards and retail director, Organic Consumers Association, Finland, MN*

**8:00–8:45PM**

- **Keynote: Finding a Regenerative Future—Agriculture for Life**

**Jeff Moyer**, *executive director, Rodale Institute; former chair, USDA National Organic Standards Boards; Kutztown, PA*

**Jay Feldman**, *moderator, executive director, Beyond Pesticides, Washington, DC*

**8:45–10:30PM**

- **Reception and book signing** [Atrium]

# Thank You!

**Beyond Pesticides, Organic Consumers Association,  
and the University of Minnesota Institute on the Environment would like  
to thank the organizations that co-sponsored this event:**

Beyond Pesticides Minnesota, Birchwood Cafe, Blue Fruit Farm, Clean Up the River Environment (CURE), Giving Tree Gardens, Humming for Bees, Kids for Saving Earth, Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Services, Midwest Pesticide Action Center, Minnesota Food Association, Pesticide Action Network North America, Pollinate Minnesota, Pollinator Friendly Alliance, Seward Community Co-op, Students for Sustainability, The Beez Kneez, and White Earth Land Recovery Project

**A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO:**

### **MAJOR SUPPORTERS**

Dr. Bronner's, Frey Vineyards, Organic Valley, Tabard Inn, and Mercola

### **SUPPORTERS**

Birchwood Cafe, Eden Foods, Giving Tree Gardens, Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Services, Natural Spaces Domes, NaturePedic, Organic Lawns by LUNSETH, Richman Law Group, Seward Community Co-op

**BEYOND PESTICIDES**, founded in 1981 as the National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides, works with allies for a future free of hazardous pesticides and collaborates with grassroots people and organizations to educate the public on pesticide hazards and promote non-toxic alternatives. The founders felt that without the existence of such an organized, national network, local, state and national pesticide policy would become, under chemical industry pressure, increasingly unresponsive to public health and environmental concerns.



### **Beyond Pesticides Board of Directors**

*Routt Reigart, M.D.* (President), Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC; *Lani Malmberg* (Vice-President), Goat Green, Cheyenne, WY; *Terry Shistar, Ph.D.* (Secretary), Lawrence, KS; *Caroline Cox* (Treasurer), Center for Environmental Health, Oakland, CA; *Chip Osborne* (At-Large), Osborne Organics, Marblehead, MA; *Rella Abernathy, Ph.D.*, City of Boulder Integrative Pest Management Program, Boulder, CO; *Colehour Bondera*, Kānalani Ohana Farm, Hōnaunau, HI; *Nelson Carrasquillo*, Farmworkers Support Committee (CATA), Philadelphia, PA; *Paula Dinerstein*, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, Washington, DC; *Lorna Donaldson*, Donaldson Family Farms, Tiptonville, TN; *Jay Feldman*, Beyond Pesticides, Washington, DC; *Melinda Hemmelgarn, R.D.*, Food Sleuth, Columbia, MO; *Warren Porter, Ph.D.*, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI; *Brett Ramey*, University of Washington, Seattle, WA; *Robina Suwol*, California Safe Schools, Toluca Lake, CA.

### **Beyond Pesticides Staff**

*Jay Feldman*, executive director; *Nichelle Harriott*, science and regulatory director; *Drew Toher*, community resource and policy director; *Carla Curle*, science program associate; *Annie D'Amato, J.D.*, legal and policy associate; *Gina Navarro*, health facilities project director; *Jen Ruocco*, executive assistant; *Amila Weerasingha*, office and information coordinator; *Quentin Woods*, intern. Forum coordinated by *Carla Curle*, program coordinator, and *Jen Ruocco*, logistics coordinator.