

A TRANSFORMATIVE PATH FORWARD

ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY | JUNE 2020–JUNE 2021 & 40-YEAR STRATEGIC VISION



For over four decades, Beyond Pesticides has worked with tens of thousands of people in the U.S. and globally to fight for healthy air, water, land, and food. We forge ties with nonprofit and volunteer organizations, local governments, and forward-thinking corporations. We work with people who understand the importance of vibrant ecosystems on which all life depends. We bridge all affected communities—from urban to rural, parents and youth to medical practitioners, scientists to policy makers, farmworkers to farmers, and gardeners to landscapers. Together, we see the urgent need to end toxic pesticide use and adopt healthy practices.

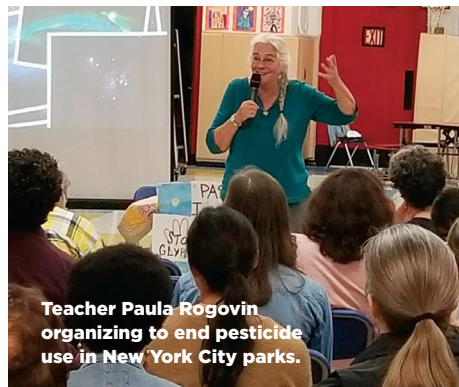
Learning from Covid-19

The Covid-19 pandemic brought to national attention essential scientific understandings that must be applied to policy—if we are to meet the challenges of widespread illness, biodiversity collapse, and the climate crisis. We now are being taught in real time that solving these existential crises demands that we act systemically and address complete ecosystems

Strategy for Change

We identify five categories of work:

1. Daily communication with the grassroots across diverse backgrounds;
2. Tracking science and making it accessible through databases/factsheets/reports;
3. Public education and awareness;
4. Advancing of policy and practices with hands-on assistance; and
5. Advocacy and litigation for changes in marketplace practices.



Teacher Paula Rogovin organizing to end pesticide use in New York City parks.

and social systems, and their interrelationships. Only then will we survive and thrive. Emerging science provides the warning signals of systemic disruption of ecosystems and human health, providing us with a roadmap for a sustainable path forward.

With the elimination of toxic pesticides and fertilizers, an organic systems approach offers an important piece of the solution to the existential threats of toxic pesticide-induced illness, biodiversity collapse, and the climate crisis.

With organic systems, we:

- Improve soil quality
- Minimize energy use
- Increase biodiversity
- Minimize water pollution
- Minimize pesticide residues
- Reduce worker/applicator exposure to pesticide residues
- Improve ecosystem services
- See equal or less cost in long-term, while increasing resiliency.



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Action of the Week

We had **382,288 actions taken by 27,000+ individuals** through our Action of the Week. We provide our supporters and network with weekly concrete actions on issues related to environmental and public and worker health, pesticide use, organic, and other timely topics.

Hands-on in Communities

Beyond Pesticides has taken a holistic approach to advancing sustainable, organic practices and policies to solve the pesticide poisoning and contamination problem and the range of existential adverse effects. This framework provides the foundation for ending pesticide dependency in all aspects of use, agricultural and nonagricultural. Our implementation of organic land management is a partnership with local community groups and local governments. We collaborate with groups, such as Protect South Portland and Portland Protectors (ME), Parks for Kids NYC, Toxic Free Philly, Bee Safe Minneapolis, and Toxic Free Pima County (AZ). This collaboration extends to municipal parks departments through which we conduct a robust program to:

1. Educate on holistic organic management, its importance to health and the environment;
2. Evaluate soil and management practices;
3. Produce an organic transition plan;
4. Assist with implementation.

Nationally, we have teamed up with Stonyfield Organic, and throughout the west we are working with Natural Grocers, which has 162 stores in 20 states.

DAILY NEWS BLOG



EPA and Congress Must Act to Correct a Failed Pesticide Program

November 1, 2021

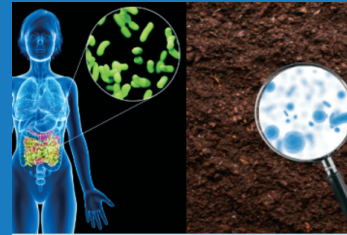
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Climate Crisis, Soil, Pesticides, Fertilizers: Red alert! This is not a drill!

October 29, 2021

[READ NOW](#)



Glyphosate Kills Microorganisms Beneficial to Plants, Animals, and Humans

October 28, 2021

[READ NOW](#)



Global Pollinator Declines Threaten Plant Biodiversity

October 27, 2021

[READ NOW](#)

Our Daily News provides the up-to-date information people need to inform their own decisions and influence those that are made at the community level. The articles delve into the latest science, regulatory decisions, management practices not reliant on toxic pesticides, legal action, and grassroots organizing that drives successful local policies.

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Science Informing Action

Beyond Pesticides tracks the emerging science with unique databases that define the urgent threats, ranging from public and worker health, disproportionate harm, ecological destruction, and the climate crisis. In juxtaposition, we provide the information necessary through our **ManageSafe database** to identify strategies and products that serve as safer alternatives for prevention and management. We continually update:

- **Gateway on Pesticide Hazards and Safe Pest Management**, which now has nearly 400 pesticide folders containing information about specific pesticide-related environmental and health effects, regulatory action, and uses.
- **Pesticide-Induced Diseases Database (PIDD)**, which now includes 1,174 studies, with pesticide exposure links to cancer, brain and nervous system disorders, and learning/developmental disorders, and more. New PIDD sections include a subsection about skin reactions/disease and oxidative stress under “Body Burden.”
- **Our most popular factsheets, 40 Most Commonly Used Lawn Pesticides—Health and Environmental Effects.** The charts show, based on government sources, that the majority of pesticides in wide use can cause cancer, neurological and respiratory effects, reproductive harm and bird defects, and are toxic to waterways,

wildlife, bees and pollinators, and birds and fish.

With the increase in use of sanitizers and disinfectants during Covid-19, we continued to build out our **Covid-19 Pandemic webpages**, including up-to-date information on safe hand sanitizers and disinfectants, and a Q&A style fact-sheet on *Answering Questions about Toxic Sanitizers and Disinfectants*. We produced a factsheet, on the hazards of quaternary ammonium compounds, also known as “quats” or “QACs,” which are in many cleansers and increase the risk of asthma and adverse reproductive effects.

38th National Pesticide Forum

Cultivating Healthy Communities: Confronting health threats, climate disasters, and biodiversity collapse with a toxic-free future, was co-convened by Beyond Pesticides and the Institute for Exposomic Research, the Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai over four weeks in May-June 2021. With a remote format, this Forum brought together over 600 people and organizations from 15 countries and is now offered for free on our website.

Getting the Word Out

Last year, we distributed nearly 400 Pesticide Free Zone and Organic Landscape signs in 33 states and four Canadian provinces. Our safe lawn and mosquito management doorhangers have reached 1,500 neighborhoods in

19 states. Our *Map of U.S. Pesticide Reform Policies* now includes 18 pesticide-free park policies, 47 with restrictions that protect pollinators, 103 that apply to public spaces, and 27 that extend restrictions to private land, and has been viewed 74,100 times. We had over 420,000 pageviews on our website, a 20% increase.

Protecting Ecosystems

We reported that this past year recorded the second highest honeybee loss in 15 years, with 32% of managed bee colonies in the U.S. lost. This highlights the importance of our work to strengthen the newly introduced *Saving America's Pollinator Act*.

Policy Advocacy and Law

While we submitted comments on regulatory issues related to highly toxic pesticides such as glyphosate/ Roundup, paraquat, atrazine, pentachlorophenol and antibiotics, we use the opportunity to highlight the deficiency of regulating one chemical at a time. We continue our lawsuits against companies that engage in fraudulent labeling that misleads consumers on safety and environmental protection, suing Sargento food company for their misleading labeling of no antibiotic use. This is a transformative moment when we are working to shift society, starting with our communities and local decision makers and individuals, to eliminate toxic fossil fuel-based pesticides and fertilizers.

GIVE TODAY

for a sustainable future without toxic pesticides and fertilizers!

beyondpesticides.org/donate

All donations are tax-deductible.



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