

Vector Control Talking Points

3 minutes or less each

Good afternoon. My name is _____, I am an _____ county resident, mom of _____ with _____ health issues (ie: allergies, auto immune issues, and chemical sensitivity). I am (*establish your credibility here- occupation, advocate for X years etc.*)

Address current agenda issue first (ie: I am here to ask for the decision about pesticide spraying remain the hands of the 35 board members, not a just a few. All of their votes count and we residents must be represented.)

I am also here to request that all aerial and ground spraying of toxic pesticides for insects in _____ stop. We have (the most, #2 etc) toxic water in the USA mainland and our children's and health issues are skyrocketing. You all have an opportunity to reduce this toxic burden and reverse the health issues plaguing our state and future of our country.

Some trustees may not consider the chemicals that are being used as toxic in certain amounts, other trustees may even consider them completely safe. Due to the trust we are supposed to be able to place in our EPA, I understand this. However it is simply not factual, not based on sound science, to consider the pesticides being sprayed from planes, over our water, parks, backyard gardens, bees, and school yards, to be safe. Here are a few reasons why:

1. The EPA does not require long-term animal studies showing the safety of the the final formulation of these pesticides. They only require studies on one declared "active" ingredient not the final formulation. Everyone knows that when you put more than one chemical together, there is a different impact. **This means that any claim, from the EPA or chemical**

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manufacturer, that these chemical pesticides are safe, is unfounded.

There is no evidence to prove safety and therefore must not be used in our community.

2. Any studies the chemical companies have commissioned lack scientific integrity because it has been proven that the lab animals, including the control groups, were fed lab chow that was contaminated with toxic chemicals. When health issues showed up in both groups, the chemicals companies could claim there was no substantial difference in exposure the chemicals in question. **None of the studies the chemical manufacturers have on animals are valid.**

3. In at least one case (therefore we can question if there are more) the EPA has allowed one form of a chemical to be tested (ie: esthers or salts) and a completely different form, (glycine) to be used in the chemical products. This **bait and switch** is unethical and potentially extremely harmful- just a sodium chloride is very different from sodium cyanide.

4. The dose does not make the poison. Our EPA allows 800 endocrine disruptors which are banned in most EU countries. Endocrine disruptors, found in pesticides, mean that a nano amount of the poison can replace hormones and halt or harm the development of a fetus. So **a very small amount sprayed is actually means more potential harm to a pregnant woman**. Any amount of toxin sprayed in our communities is unacceptable.

The fact is that the salesmen of chemical companies are paid to lie to you. We citizens, our only special interest is the well being of our families. Thank you.

Toxins Increase Our American Health Crisis

I am here to ask you to ensure (address agenda issue: ie *that any decision about pesticides sprayed remains a decision by the board of 35 not the sole decision of a singular person. This is too serious of an issue to leave in the hands of person.*

There are also far too many scientific studies emerging about the toxicity of hundreds of chemicals and is therefore to great a job for only a few.)

In fact, there are hundreds of studies presented by non-profits such a Beyond Pesticides and PANNA that pesticides being used are neurotoxins, endocrine disruptors, carcinogens, and cause serious organ damage and death. America is in a health crisis which will bankrupt this nation if we continue to allow our citizens to be exposed to toxins.

- 1 out of 2 of our children in America having a chronic illness such as allergies, autism, auto immune disease, asthma, obesity and diabetes.
- 1 out of 2 males and 1 out of 3 females are expected to get cancer in the US,
- 1 out of 3 young couples are experiencing infertility
- 1 out of 5 with mental illness and 1 out of 6 children have learning disabilities
- 1 out of 10 with non-alcoholic liver disease
- Roundup, the most widely used herbicide in the world - considered SAFE for 40 years- has recently been PROVEN to CAUSE liver disease.
- In 16 years, 1 out of 2 of the children born in 2032 will be diagnosed with autism if we continue at the current rate. Studies have shown up to a 25% increase in autism in pesticide sprayed areas.

All of the mentioned health issues can be directly linked to the exposure of toxins in the environment.

We simply cannot afford to continue to use toxic chemicals, for any reason, in our communities. Historically, it has been shown that we do not need to either. Other preventative methods are effective. For hundreds of thousands of years, we have lived with insects. We have used bats, predatory insects, natural pesticides and preventative permaculture. Only in the past 20-40 years have we used man made chemical poisons to fight them. The poisons are not only being sprayed on the insects. They are being sprayed on our garden, in our water reservoirs, on our children play grounds and on our bees, birds, wildlife, and butterflies. We have ingenious people in our state leadership who can find ways to not poison ourselves and continue to survive insects, but we will not survive as a human race when more than half our population is incapacitated due to toxins.

Thank you for being courageous and stopping the poisoning of America.

Bees and Wildlife:

Address current agenda issues (ie: I am here to ask you to leave the decision of spraying pesticides in the hands of the 35 board members, not just a few.)

I am also asking that you stop spraying toxic chemicals completely in consideration of the pollinators, wildlife and our dependency on them.

Birds, bees, fish and wildlife also get exposed to these chemicals which have been proven to kill insects and birds. Our bees are now on the endangered species list, many are near extinction. 1 out of 3 bites of food are dependant on pollinators.

Albert Einstein said: *"If the bee disappeared off the face of the Earth, man would only have four years left to live."*

Thich Nat Han says, *"If we kill the bees, we are killing ourselves, because we are all connected."*

CA is the largest agricultural state in America, our economy and the nourishment of our nation depends on the bees in our state. If we continue killing them by spraying toxins, we are in fact, driving the nation in to economic and food security ruin.

90% of the pesticide runoff that pollutes the water comes from urban use, such as spraying our skies, schools, sidewalks and sports fields. The chemicals take years to biodegrade can remain viable for 315 days in the ocean. Meanwhile, they are endocrine disruptors, which means they cause sex hormone changes. Fish off the coast of Malibu, the NY Hudson river, and rivers near Virginia were tested and 50-70% of the male fish were growing ovaries. Male frogs were driven to mate with each-other when exposed to herbicides. What happens to our children when they bathe and swim in these waters, or eat these fish and chemicals?

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The spraying of toxins means that the particles will also dissipate in heat, water molecules will collect around them, and they will fall down as rain states away. New pesticides recently sprayed in Texas were found in NY two weeks later. So spraying toxins in our state of California doesn't just impact our children, but could impact your grandmother's garden in Utah.

We must stop spraying toxic chemicals! Thank you for your attention.