

Pesticides

# Pesticides

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I wrote this for a seventh grade english project. Be brutal;D

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# Pesticides

You are outside in a pleasant suburban neighborhood looking at three homes; one has countless yellow dandelions out front, the yellows bring out the light sapphire of the house's siding adequately. Alongside it, is a white house with not a dandelion in sight; just the natural, pure green of the grass and a woman pulling weeds out of her garden. To the left, there is a burgundy house, with not a weed in view, but towards the yard's end, about a yard away from the sidewalk, there is a tiny white and green sign with an animal and child crossed out. These houses represent your options of how to handle dandelions and other pests. You can live with them and keep your yard chemical-free like the blue house. If don't relish their presence you can pull them out yourself just as the white house's owner did. Or you can simply pay a lawn company to eliminate the problem with chemicals called pesticides just as the red house did. Pesticides have harmful effects and can cause a great deal of trouble, but they can be prevented with a few simple and cost effective alternatives.

We can breath, blink, think, and live because of nature. If we didn't have plants there would be no ultimately be no us, no anything. Some people try to preserve nature and care for it while others don't. People buy hybrid cars for the sole purpose to aid the environment from deadly gases and chemicals. However, what most people don't think of is the harmful pesticides pose to the environment. Pesticides don't just stay on your lawn or in your field; they linger there. The more you use them the longer it will take for your land to return to pure, natural, and chemical-free. Along with the land, the water is affected by the use of pesticides. From multiple causes such as pesticides evaporating and the ground absorbing them our water contains lawn chemicals. While the environment is suffering humans and animals are being harmed from pesticide use.

Birth defects and cancer are two common health problems related to use of pesticides. Animals have birth defects, cause cancer and reproduction problems. In fact, 10,400 people die on average per year due to cancer caused by pesticides. That would be the entire population of Pataskala. 107 ingredients have been found to cause cancer to animals and humans, and of those 107, 83 of those cancer-causing ingredients. Children are even more susceptible to pesticides poisoning. Nevertheless, adults are still at risk. In truth, an average of 300,000 farmers get a pesticide related illness. West Nile disease increased use of pesticides over the last decade. Pesticides cause over 10,000 more deaths than West Nile Disease which have a reported 124 deaths in 2007. There may not be quite as many health issues if pesticide users follow the instructions when treating their lawns and treating for mosquitoes, fleas and ticks.

However, some people who treat their own lawns don't follow the instructions properly or just ignore all warning labels. This is not a very smart thing to do for several reasons. One reason is they are causing more trouble than good. Another reason is that they are purposely putting themselves and others in a dangerous situation because they were irresponsible. That is one way to not treat pesticides without care. Another way to act irresponsible with pesticides is to not pass on a proper warning to those that will be close to the treated area. Little children don't understand the warning sign in the yard so it is the adult's job to explain to the child to stay away from the treated area. However, some children don't get that warning or they ignore the warning. I believe if a person is going to risk chemically treating their land they should make sure others are safe and you do all you can to warn them.

While some may argue, pesticides are of great use. They eliminate weeds, bugs, and other pests. They can create the ideal lawn as some people may see it. They are sometimes our best defense against deadly disease passed though bugs. They also destroy plants that can harm crops. Pesticides do have their advantages but

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there are alternatives to produce the same results with minimal harm.

There are dozens of alternatives for pesticides. As said before you can live with the pests or you can take action without chemical usage. On [pesticide.org](http://pesticide.org) there are alternatives for about every pest such as, Ants, Bees, Fleas, Ticks, Mosquitoes, Moss, Moles, Mice, Spiders, Slugs, Dandelions, Blackberries and dozens more. You can buy equipment, or make recipes to eliminate the problem while keeping the environment, animals, yourself and others out of harm's way. This would help our environment and would have a positive effect on our own lives.

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