

Aspetuck Land Trust

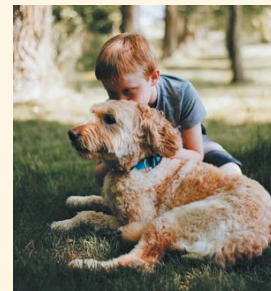
Green Corridor

What Homeowners Can Do — Fact Sheet #3

Avoid Pesticide and Herbicide Use

Why are these products harmful?

Pesticides are a major factor in the “insect apocalypse” because they kill beneficial insects like pollinators, contaminate the soil, and end up in our water systems. Herbicides are included in the category of pesticides and, once thought to be safe, are now emerging as toxic to a variety of pollinators, birds, and humans. Residential use of these products exceed use in agriculture and has a direct impact on the health of our families as well as nature.



Square Space

What can I use instead?

- Use personal protective measures like appropriate clothing and body checks.
- Modify your landscape: remove barberry, move play areas away from woods, add a border of wood chips between lawn and woods.
- Plant native plants to attract beneficial insects remove weeds by hand or prune.
- Consider new methods like Tick Boxes-Tick Control System, Met-52 fungus and garlic oil.

Notes: Pyrethrins/Pyrethroids are toxic to bees, fish, cats, and other aquatic organisms.
Cedarwood Oil is toxic to fleas, ticks, mosquitos, but other toxicity has been unstudied.

Where can I find alternatives?

Aspetuck Land Trust provides helpful resources (see link below):

- Look for organic products that have the OMRI certification (Organic Materials Review Institute).
- Find a landscaper that is NOFA AOLCP certified (trained in organic methods and design).
- Let nature do its thing! The more native plants and animals, the less toxins in your backyard, the healthier and more biodiverse your property is ... no need for pesticides.

► To learn more visit: aspetucklandtrust.org/what-homeowners-can-do



We are Local. We are your Neighbors. We are your Land Trust.