

Nancy Kramer

From: Kozlowski/Greenwood <sglk_what4@earthlink.net>
Sent: Tuesday, July 07, 2015 6:23 PM
To: Neil Fulton
Cc: Nancy Kramer
Subject: chemicals to be sprayed in Norwich

Dear Neil and Select board,

It seems to me it is not too late to stop the spraying of dangerous chemicals in Norwich. Lindsay Putnam contacted me on behalf of the Town Manager and wrote that they will complete about 1 acre per day in the Nature Area. It was scheduled to begin July 6th and continue for 15 days.

Whether you believe that the chemicals: rodeo, garlon or escort to be used in Norwich are dangerous or safe, is an issue that can be debated. However, what unequivocally cannot be debated is the fact that the residents of Norwich should have been fully notified of the spraying in their town, and be provided the opportunity to decide if they felt it to be appropriate.

Therefore I think it only reasonable that the project stop immediately and that proper notification be made to all residents. An open meeting and Town vote should be scheduled as soon as possible.

Community members who have presented information regarding the dangers should NOT be ignored. Lindsay Putnam has stated, and I quote, "Two of the products can actually be eaten, if you wish, with no hazardous effects". I must say this seems to defy reason. In another post Lindsay states, "*We are moving forward and I am confident that no one in Norwich, nor any animals/birds/earthworms/etc are at risk."

Please read the information below. It certainly, at the very least, is cause for concern.

Thank you so very much for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely, Sue Greenwood

INFO:

The Dangers of Triclopyr

As far back as 2010, UCSF and the Marin County Municipal Water District decided to refrain from using Garlon products in Sutroforest, despite the claims by producers of these products and the EPA that these products were "safe" to humans, animals, and other wildlife. What one needs to realize is that the EPA has deemed incredibly high levels of exposure as safe merely because they do not cause cancer in a large percentage of individuals in a short period of time. This does not mean that the product does not cause cancer or other serious problems to those exposed. Unfortunately, the production and promulgation of these toxic chemicals is all about money.

"Garlon "causes severe birth defects in rats at relatively low levels of exposure." The rats were born with brains outside their skulls, or without

eyelids. “Maternal toxicity was high” and exposed rats also had more failed pregnancies.

Rat and dog studies showed damage to the kidneys, the liver, and the blood. It’s insidious, because *there’s no immediate effect that’s apparent*. If someone’s being poisoned, they wouldn’t even know it. In a study on six Shetland ponies, high doses killed two ponies in a week, and two others were destroyed.

About 1-2% of Garlon falling on human skin is absorbed within a day. For rodents, its absorbed twelve times as fast. Too bad for the gophers...

It isn’t considered a carcinogen under today’s more lenient guidelines, but would have been one under the stricter 1986 guidelines.

Dogs may be particularly vulnerable; their kidneys may not be able to handle Garlon as well as rats or humans. “The pharmacokinetics of triclopyr is very different in the dog, which is unique in its limited capacity to clear weak acids from the blood and excrete them in the urine.” Dow Chemical objected when EPA said that decreased red-dye excretion was an adverse effect, so now it’s just listed as an “effect.”

It very probably* alters soil biology*. “There is little information on the toxicity of triclopyr to terrestrial microorganisms. Garlon 4 can inhibit growth in the mycorrhizal fungi...” (These are fungi in the soil that help plant nutrition.) No one knows what it does to soil microbes, because *it hasn’t been studied*.

It’s particularly dangerous to aquatic creatures: fish (particularly salmon); invertebrates; and aquatic plants.

It doesn’t [ETA: generally] kill adult honeybees, but there are no studies of other insects. [ETA: Some studies show slight “acute toxicity” to honeybees.]

Garlon *can persist in dead vegetation for up to two years*.”