

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 11, 2007 11:31 AM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: problems with Drift Stakeholders process - for July 27 meeting

-----Original Message-----

**From:** jody spear [mailto:jody spear@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2007 4:49 PM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** problems with Drift Stakeholders process - for July 27 meeting

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I attended the last meeting of the Drift Stakeholders group and was able to discern that for those  
>with environmental and health concerns, the series of meetings had been a pointless  
>exercise. At the July meeting Heather Spalding (MOFGA) led off with the criticism  
>that the ratings given by committee members to some 45 action items  
>(grouped into 9 recommendations) don't reflect concerns of petitions  
>submitted to PCB in 2005 (ban OPs, ban aerial spraying, and conduct  
>annual drift studies to determine appropriate buffer zones).

It was Spalding, I believe, who suggested that a minority report was in order. I understand now that no  
minority report has been submitted, and that is unfortunate,  
>considering the imbalance of the committee. The stakeholders'  
>process was supposed to address the failings of the status quo, but  
>since the committee was stacked by Lebelle Hicks to be topheavily  
>pro-industry, there could be little expectation of constructive  
>change.

I don't envy those who have the task of deciphering the pseudoscientific code -- the vote sums and means and  
standard deviations -- to explain that committee's conclusions. A few random observations I gathered at that last  
meeting may provide some snapshot value.

>Mark Jacoby, an organic farmer, stated that his family would be no  
>better protected by the group's recommendations. He deplored the  
>fact that most members of the committee were unwilling to oppose  
>pesticide drift onto residences; he took issue with the 20-percent drift  
>allowance before regulatory action is triggered; and he objected to  
>being put at an economic disadvantage by having to establish buffers  
>on his side of the boundary.  
>  
>Instead, the recommendations with the highest ratings prioritize  
>"equitable buffers" and various types of damage control  
>(identification of organic farms and other sensitive areas by GPS)  
>along with emphasizing the need for proof of harm from pesticide drift.  
> Protection of the general public (by media notification and by  
>education in schools -- or by banning the most toxic pesticides) is  
>not endorsed, and the "prohibition of pesticide application where  
>there is appreciable likelihood of pesticide drift onto residences,  
>yards, and drinking-water wells" (Recommendation 9) has no support

>outside the reps with stated environmental concerns.

>

>John Harker (Dept. of Agriculture) defends chemicalized agriculture, saying

>that "chemicals increase lifespan" (a variant of Hicks's opinion

>that all chemical exposure is cause for concern to the uninformed).

>He wants PCB to consider economic dislocation if pesticide bans were to

>be enacted. Harker also brought up the EHSC Body Burden study to

>make the point that people walk around with chemicals in their

>systems regardless of exposure to pesticides. Here he would seem not to have absorbed the study's conclusion: that persistent pollutants in

>human tissue are linked to vast numbers of acute and chronic

>illnesses. Adding pesticides to the mix only compounds the crisis

>-- neurotoxic chemicals (such as AZM, phosmet, and other OP

>insecticides) leading to CNS (brain) disease, endocrine-disrupting

>chemicals (carbaryl, esfenvalerate, and malathion insecticides)

>causing developmental and hormonal dysfunction, and carcinogens

>(diuron, captan, and numerous others in all pesticide categories)

>contributing to an epidemic of cancer.

The bystanders -- victims of spray drift --who are raising their voices in protest don't always know what is being sprayed and what medical sequelae connect with a given chemical category, but their symptoms should not be questioned. An incident in Surry in June of last year is a case in point. The PCB inspector who responded to a complaint of overspray from a cropduster doubted and ridiculed what was reported to him. The pollution resulting from herbicides is typically environmental -- usually from hexazinone (Velpar) destroying soil quality and migrating into wells and other water sources. But in this case the herbicide that drifted onto the roadway (confirmed by G. M. Allen to be diuron) caused a young mother and her two children to experience eye, skin, and respiratory irritation along with headache and other malaise -- all symptoms known to be caused by diuron -- throughout the summer. The board's response to complaints like this one should not depend on "proof of harm" being established.

>

>Lebelle Hicks has denied the link between pesticides and damage to health, blaming "lifestyle" factors instead, but it's a matter

>of record that farmers have astronomically high rates of cancer and

>other end-stage diseases. (Only chemical-industry profiteers and

>their apologists dispute this.) The guidance she has provided to

>the technical and stakeholders groups has warped the entire

>proceedings.

>

>Hicks stresses risk/benefit analysis, so it was not surprising that at the July Stakeholders meeting,

>one member ( a forestry rep?) cited the spurious example of vehicles, which

>we choose to use despite toxic air emissions.

>

>The blueberry grower (Sweetland) wants everyone to know that he's

>concerned about soil quality (and about neighbors' health) even

>though he sprays pesticides.

>

>Perhaps the most interesting comment that day came from Mark Jacoby, who

>would like users of pesticides to have an incentive to not cause

>harm to others.

>

>As it is, Recommendations 1-8 address some stakeholders' perceived

>need for buffer zones, notification, education (about differing

>needs -- not just those of victims), drift management (voluntary --

>not mandatory), monitoring, measures for determining harm, annual

- >reporting of complaints and violations, additional staff funding to
- >enforce EXISTING regulations (unlikely, according to Jemison).
- >It's clear where reps of forestry (2), blueberry, potato, and
- >pesticide-applicator (2) industries stand, and aligned with them are
- >Co-Op Extension and DOA (2). I'm not aware of what input came from
- >CDC and Atlantic Salmon Commission during the course of meetings.
- >That leaves only MOFGA, TAC, and two organic farmers (4 of 15) to
- >advocate for reform. Matt Davis (Environment Maine) decided not to attend, saying he
- >didn't feel he had any leverage.

- >
- >Henry Jennings hesitantly asked the group to make sure they weren't
- >overlooking Spalding's urging that priority be assigned to
- >protecting citizens. PCB has its own priorities, he had said, and
- >will do whatever they're gonna do, but (he implies) let's make sure
- >the "minority" is heard.

>

In the absence of a minority report, I propose that the board give its most careful consideration to the following provisions, acknowledging that they will serve the greater populations around farm fields:

Ban organophosphate insecticides, which are being phased out nationally anyway (EPA's failure to accelerate phaseout action on AZM and phosmet [January 2007] is being challenged in court).

Pressure the Merrill and Allen blueberry companies to follow the example of Cherryfield Foods and Wyman: Cease all aerial spraying.

Because pesticides drift from ground applications too, prohibit all spraying that could land on people, their houses, animals, wells, gardens, and roadways. Make drift management mandatory, not voluntary.

>

- >Build in incentives for pesticide users to not cause harm
- >to others.

>

- >Get rid of the 20-percent rule (which Carol Eckert admitted to the
- >group has no basis in science).

>

- >Get rid of the requirement for documented proof of harm (adding
- >insult to injury for those caught in toxic drift clouds).

I look forward to the public hearing on this issue.

>

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- >[http://imagine-windowlive.com/hotmail/?locale=en-us&ocid=TXT\\_TAGHM\\_migration\\_HM\\_mini\\_2G\\_0507](http://imagine-windowlive.com/hotmail/?locale=en-us&ocid=TXT_TAGHM_migration_HM_mini_2G_0507)

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**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Monday, July 02, 2007 4:53 PM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: Aerial Spraying at Georges Pond Franklin, Maine

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Dana Shaw [mailto:dshaw60@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 02, 2007 4:28 PM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** Aerial Spraying at Georges Pond Franklin, Maine

Mr. Jennings,

I am writing due to my extreme concern about the aerial spraying that is going on in the area and near my home. I am the Vice-President of the Georges Pond Property Owners Association (GPPOA) in Franklin. It came up as a topic for concern at our meeting held June 24th. There are many members that are distressed about the proximity of the spraying to Georges Pond and the affects it may be having on our Pond and our health.

A few years ago my children were outside playing in the Blueberry field across the street when a helicopter started spraying with them in the area. I called then and was advised to contact the owner requesting notification of when the spraying would happen again, so that we could prepare for it. I never did do that, but I tried to make sure that they didn't go into the field again.

A month or so, again we were awakened by the sound of a helicopter flying overhead and a strong odor coming into our house. I quickly shut all the windows, but it was really too late to prevent what had already happened. I can't believe that this is good for us? At our meeting others expressed their same concerns.

To give you an idea of the distance, our home is approximately 75 feet from the field and the field is approximately 200 feet from Georges Pond. This field has only one culvert which drains directly into Georges Pond. Just looking at it makes me think that this is not a good thing.

I have been trying to collect data on this issue and had no idea that there was so much out there. I was informed by an individual that this aerial spraying is legal as long as they have the correct permits under the Clean Water Act. Is this true and if so, how can we find out if they have the correct permits and are following the law? Is there any agency that will come in and test for these types of chemical and insure us that they are at safe levels? I know that there was a sign up a couple of years ago that they were using Guithion on these fields, but I am sure there are other ones they use too. I have had some recent health issues as others in the area. I am not saying they are connected, but I am also not saying they are not. We just would like to have our minds put at ease about this issue and the only way to have that done is by getting our water tested along with getting more information about this subject. I would appreciate a prompt response. Thank you.

Respectfully,  
Dana A Shaw

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[PC Magazine s 2007 editors choice for best web mail award-winning Windows Live Hotmail.](#)

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 20, 2007 4:57 PM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: letter of concern

-----Original Message-----

**From:** fosilbreth@juno.com [mailto:fosilbreth@juno.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 20, 2007 1:37 PM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** letter of concern

Dear Mr. Jennings,

I am writing in regard to the practice of aerial spraying of pesticides in Maine. My family and I have recently moved to the town of Mariaville in Hancock county. Within a few days of our arrival I became aware that the blueberry fields near our home are regularly sprayed with a pesticide called Velpar. Apparently this same substance is sprayed over the nearby power lines once a year to control pests. Velpar has been known to end up in residential wells. It is also possible for it to be carried by the wind into our lungs as we breathe and onto our gardens. Velpar is a poison. This practice is poisoning our water, our food, our very bodies.

I am a nursing mother. I have two young sons. We do not deserve to be poisoned and nor do the other members of our community. It is outrageous that this practice has been allowed to go on as long as it has. It is unthinkable that it should be allowed to continue. Please put a stop to aerial spraying in Maine.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Jenny Backlund

Mother to Gilon (4) and Cedar (12 months)

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2007 2:07 PM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: Toddy Pond Watershed

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Thomas Dean [mailto:tdean@tcreal.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 07, 2007 10:38 AM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Cc:** Bob Jones  
**Subject:** Toddy Pond Watershed

Hi Henry,  
My wife and I have been privileged to frequent Toddy Pond for several years and are in the process of moving down there permanently. Last summer I noticed the spraying for pesticides that was occurring on the blueberry fields to the west of the pond. I could see the helicopter from the pond as it turned many times passing over the trees.

This spraying has to be occurring within the Toddy Pond watershed. My wife and I are sensitive to pollutants of any type but just as important, if not more so, are the many varieties of wildlife on and around the pond that are placed in jeopardy by this activity. I will not take the time to describe the documented hazards of this spraying as I am sure you are already aware of them. I hope you will support those of us who wish to protect this most valuable resource.

Thank You,  
Tom

Thomas Dean  
Sales Agent, Town & Country, Realtors  
140 High Street  
Ellsworth, Maine 04603  
207 667 7557 ext.106  
[www.town-countryrealtors.com](http://www.town-countryrealtors.com)

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Monday, July 23, 2007 11:31 AM  
**To:** Fish, Gary  
**Subject:** FW: aerial spraying

-----Original Message-----

**From:** carol woolman [mailto:cwoolman@roadrunner.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 22, 2007 8:44 PM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** aerial spraying

Dear Henry Jennings,

I am alarmed about the dangers of pesticide spraying of blueberries in Maine. Please help the cause of stopping growers from aerial spraying. I believe our blueberries are the best, but putting poison on them adds risk to human beings, especially our children, and also our pets and other animals who can't read the signs warning of danger.

Thank you,  
Carol Woolman  
Bar Harbor, Maine 04609

**From:** Jennings, Henry

**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2007 8:17 AM

**To:** Fish, Gary

**Subject:** FW: Please Keep Maine Bt Corn Free/Protect from pesticide drift and water contamination

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Beedy Parker [mailto:beedyparker@gwi.net]

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2007 8:50 PM

**To:** Jennings, Henry

**Subject:** Please Keep Maine Bt Corn Free/Protect from pesticide drift and water contamination

Hi Henry. Here are comments on Items #3 and 4 on the July 27 BPC agenda.

### #3 Registration of Bt corn

Please oppose this registration. Need for these seeds is not sufficiently documented in Maine, whereas we know that increased exposure to the toxin will speed up the development of resistance in pests and make Bt useless in the future, just as the overuse of antibiotics has brought us infections that are resistant to antibiotics. We know that the pollen travels great distances and is introduced into GE free crops. We know that the companies pushing GE crops are only too happy to contaminate other crops and eliminate GE free zones. Buffers being discussed will not provide sufficient protection. And liability should be clearly the fault of the GE grower, if not the corporation providing the seed.

In addition, and perhaps more significant in the long run, there is concern about the effect of Bt in such large quantities on soil organism and soil health. And I personally have doubts about the effects of eating large quantities of Bt corn on people who have weak stomach acid.

### #4 Aerial Application Issues

I looked at the Stakeholder Committee weighted recommendations and they look like they lead to much longer deliberations and negotiations, hopefully with the "diverse landowners" as in the first recommendation. Just to reiterate my concerns, from long experience with our local blueberry spray phone tree (Appleton, Hope, Rockport and Camden; Paul Sweetland calls us when a spray operation is going to start and we call neighbors who are generally in the area and worried about drift), buffer zones aren't nearly big enough to take into account the drift that can occur immediately and the kind of rolling vapor cloud that can occur later under certain weather conditions, when the pesticide can re-vaporise, and roll across a valley or down a slope. If surveys can be required of areas to be sprayed (and this should include tractor spraying, which travels too) and their surrounding area, they should include determinations of where the drift will generally go, and the groundwater recharge behaviour.

And I have long felt that real estate agents should be required to disclose proximity to sprayed lands to prospective buyers.

All of the above would be expensive and/or strongly resisted, so it would make most sense to provide incentives for transition to nontoxic practices as alternatives to pesticide spraying.

Thank you for your attention,

Beedy Parker, Camden

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 03, 2007 8:09 AM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: Blueberries

-----Original Message-----

**From:** NHath@aol.com [mailto:NHath@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 03, 2007 6:35 AM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** Blueberries

Dear Mr Jennings,

More and more I am hearing stories about the disease causing results of blueberry spraying. We must stop this poisonous spraying immediately. I ask for your attention to this immediately.

Until then the following are extremely important:

- Tell local people when spraying will be taking place.
- If there are people outdoors, DO NOT spray
- Educate people about spraying
- Make a bigger buffer zone between people and spray
- Use the least toxic pesticides
- Use alternatives
- Ask the state to restart the monitoring of spray drift
- Protect migrant workers

Please write me back telling me of your intentions and confirming receipt of this letter.

Thank you  
Nancy Hathaway  
541 Morgan Bay Road  
Surry, Maine 04684

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See what's free at [AOL.com](http://AOL.com).

From: Jennings, Henry Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2007 1:08 PM To: Fish, Gary Subject: FW: Thank You -----Original Message----- From: Bob Jones [mailto:bobjonesinnz@yahoo.com] Sent: Monday, July 23, 2007 4:38 PM To: Jennings, Henry Subject: Thank You Hi Henry, Thanks for calling today. I enjoyed our chat. I am grateful that we can have an open, honest dialogue about pesticide issues even though we are on the opposite side of the issue on many points. I am glad you and the BPC board are willing to listen to concerns from citizens and take steps which will lessen the risk to public health. As you know, Maine Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides (MCAP) was formed because a group of local citizens believes we have the right to breathe clean air, drink clean water and live on land which is free of toxins and poisons. Our main focus is to:

- Raise awareness and provide education regarding the dangers of aerial spraying of pesticides on blueberry fields.
- Ask blueberry growers to be accountable and change practices to reduce health risks to people and not kill beneficial insects and birds.
- Ask the Maine Board of Pesticides Control (BPC) to enforce spray safety rules and to put public health ahead of corporate profits. Several MCAP members, their children, or their pets have been hit with pesticide spray drift over the past 6 years and as a result have become sick or have developed serious chemical sensitivity. Here are some of the key irresponsible actions which are taking place with some local growers and appear to be condoned by the BPC:

- While growers claim that spray drift can be controlled, in reality pesticides often drift past their intended targets – onto the property and into the homes of nearby residents without their knowledge or consent. Adults, children and pets have been sprayed accidentally. The contamination of waterways by pesticide drift in Washington County was proved by the state in 2004.
- Growers fail to notify local residents that they have the right to be informed beforehand of spraying. Even when residents have requested phone calls, growers often fail to notify them.
- Growers often contend that pesticides are safe and don't cause sickness, when in fact it has been proven that they do.
- Growers don't always properly educate and protect migrant workers in the fields. Many rakers eat sprayed berries, don't wash or change clothes and don't wear protective clothing. We are asking the blueberry growers to stop these irresponsible practices and for the BPC to protect citizens' health. Specifically, we are asking growers to:

- Educate the public properly about the health risks of pesticides and the right of residents near fields to be notified before spraying.
- Suggest residents near fields keep their children and pets inside on days when fields are sprayed.
- Abide by safe – spray regulations:

- Improve the notification process to local residents.
- No spraying if there are people visibly nearby the fields – bikers, joggers, etc.
- Use ground based spraying if fields are near homes.
- Widen the no-spray zone between fields and local homes, schools, roads, and waterways.

- Use the least toxic pesticides available. Start to use non-toxic, plant-derived alternatives to pesticides.
- Take more steps to educate and protect migrant workers in the fields.

Henry, if you seriously disagree with any of these points, I would like to hear from you. See you on Friday, Bob Jones

From: Jennings, Henry Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2007 7:41 AM To: Schlein, Paul B Subject: FW: Spraying blueberries July 27... -----Original Message----- From: Helen Kazura [mailto: zakaru@downeast.net] Sent: Monday, June 25, 2007 10:39 PM To: Jennings, Henry Subject: Spraying blueberries Mr. Jennings, I was awakened the other morning by the helicopters doing the spraying on Merrill's fields at the top of Winkumpaugh Rd. That's my signal not to take any strolls in those fields. It'd also my signal to get out of the neighborhood and breath uncontaminated air somewhere else. I'm concerned about my pets too. Though, it's probably too late if the copters are gone. Do you really think it is necessary use toxic substances for personal gain? What's raising blueberries all about anyway?  
Sincerely, Helen Kazura

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2007 2:36 PM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: Stop Aerial Spraying of Pesticides

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Michael Paige [mailto:mtp@4webpaiges.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 06, 2007 4:53 PM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** Stop Aerial Spraying of Pesticides

I just finished reading a very alarming article about the use and the application of pesticides in Hancock County.

My wife and I retired and spent the last two years building our year round house on Toddy Pond. We decided on this area because of its abundance of clean water, clean air, wildlife, and open space.

It is shocking to us, that the spraying of a dangerous chemical aerially is done without any regard for the individuals and families that live in these areas. To dump pesticides from an airplane with no concern for the residents in that area is wrong. We are not a third world country that is controlled by a group of people that are above the law both morally and ethically. How can an industry or a State Board, (blueberry growers and Maine Board of Pesticide Control) govern their business without any concern for the citizens that live in Maine? Why are children being sprayed? Why residents are not informed of the long term effects of being exposed to pesticides on a regular basis?

What is the short and long term effect on our water source, air, and the food we grow and eat?

We need action now, you can not ignore or defy that there is a potential catastrophic ending to this issue. The management or lack of management of aerial spraying of pesticides does affect the people of Hancock County, and we need to be protected by you, before Maine has its own "Love Canal".

Regards,

Michael and Ellen Paige  
Orland, ME

No virus found in this outgoing message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.5.476 / Virus Database: 269.10.1/888 - Release Date: 7/6/2007 6:36 AM

**From:** Jo Barrett & Dennis King [kinghillfarm@gwi.net]

**Sent:** Monday, July 23, 2007 7:21 PM

**To:** Jennings, Henry

**Subject:** aerial spraying

Dear Mr. Jennings, I am writing to express my strong concern about aerial spraying of pesticides. I am an organic farmer and worry about drift contaminating my land. Furthermore, and perhaps of more immediate concern, I suffer from extreme chemical sensitivities and have been made very ill from drift while my blueberry-growing neighbors sprayed pesticides/herbicides. My workers were also made sick. One time I lost 3 days' work – one while fleeing my land to stay as far away as possible while the spraying went on and two more being sick because I couldn't get away soon enough to avoid a major exposure. It isn't only the active ingredient that makes me ill; the oil base is toxic to me as well. Please do what you can to end this practice.

Thank you for your attention.

Jo Barrett  
King Hill Farm

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 27, 2007 8:02 AM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: blueberry spraying

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Jeff Smith [mailto:jeffgolf33@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 26, 2007 8:18 PM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** blueberry spraying

Henry,  
My sister's dogs were sprayed in North Ellsworth and have suffered ill effects. So I guess birds and bees are not enough for guthion. Jeff Smith

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2007 8:39 AM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: People vs. corporations

-----Original Message-----

**From:** margaret smith [mailto:msmithpeg@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 06, 2007 9:48 PM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** People vs. corporations

The time is moving rapidly towards the killing of pesticides in the blueberry fields. In this 21st century there ought to be a better way to accomplish this than spraying from helicopters or airplanes.

Aerial spraying of pesticides puts humans, birds and beneficial insects at great risks. Perhaps the pesticide spraying is part of the "Empty hives" in the most beneficial of all insects, bees. Perhaps the pesticide spraying is part of the increase in illness among the children and adults who live near blueberry fields and are affected by the drift.

The Maine Board of Pesticide Control ought to act responsibly to protect public health instead of corporate interests. The drift onto residents, their animals or property without their knowledge or permission causes sickness and contaminates the air, water and soil. Children waiting for a school bus were sprayed directly in June of 2006 in Surry. Did the BPC act responsibly concerning their health for the rest of the year? What happens to people's well water after spraying? Is it tested immediately, or after the next one or two rains?

Ground based pesticide spraying and use of a less toxic plant derived alternative to pesticides might be much more beneficial to humans, animals, the air, the water and the soil.

Please find a better way to kill only the pests that harm the blueberry crops.  
Peggy Smith, Surry Maine

Hi to all cats and dogs whose guardians receive a message from my guardian. I have just received my Spring hair cut, and this time I really do look like a Porty instead of a poodle.

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Luggage? GPS? Comic books?  
Check out fitting [gifts for grads](#) at Yahoo! Search.

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 26, 2007 3:25 PM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: pesticide spraying

-----Original Message-----

**From:** shirley [mailto:schavet@downeast.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 26, 2007 1:57 PM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** pesticide spraying

Dear Mr. Jennings, When will Merrill Blueberry Farms finally realize that people would rather see an occasional worm than eat all the bad chemicals they put on their fields?  
I live near some of their fields and can attest to many awful experiences. Please, please try to do something about this.

Shirley Smith  
213 Winkumpaugh Rd.  
Ellsworth

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 28, 2007 9:22 AM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: We need to stop pesticide spraying!

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Marilyn Voorhies [mailto:lynny@downeast.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 28, 2007 9:11 AM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Cc:** bobjonesinnz@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** We need to stop pesticide spraying!

Dear Mr. Jennings,

Please join the Maine Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides as they mount their campaign against pesticide spraying. This practice has gone on far too long and as a result, song birds are either being displaced or killed by the practice of pesticide spraying. There are much better, safer alternatives. We understand Merrill is one of the worst offenders, stubbornly refusing to acknowledge the problem.

We hope you can take positive action to stop this destructive practice.

Thanks,

Bill & Marilyn Voorhies  
38 Clark Point Rd.  
West Tremont, ME 04612  
(207) 244-9226

Dear BPC -

We received this form a little late,  
but I'm sure we could have gotten a  
lot more signatures with more time,  
but here is a little personal family  
plea ~ as a downeast family, we  
hear and see aerial spray equipment  
constantly. This is highly disturbing  
as the longevity of our planet and of  
human life is endangered by this  
shortsighted thinking -

Blueberries can be grown without  
the use of deadly chemicals!

Respectfully

Rebecca Gagne, Jeffrey Gagne

Oceanna Gagne + Rowan Gagne



From: Jennings, Henry  
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2007 9:17 AM  
To: Schlein, Paul B  
Subject: FW: Aerial Spraying of Pesticides on Blueberry Fields

-----Original Message-----

From: Giffin, Maureen [mailto:MGiffin@emh.org]  
Sent: Monday, July 09, 2007 10:23 PM  
To: Jennings, Henry  
Subject: Aerial Spraying of Pesticides on Blueberry Fields

Dear Mr. Jennings,

I am writing you to express my concern regarding aerial spraying of pesticides on blueberry fields in Surry, Blue Hill and Orland, Maine. I live on Toddy Pond and often worry about being accidentally sprayed. The helicopters fly right over our house, we can see them spray the field across the pond. I can't begin to tell you how disturbing this is. I can't help but to think that this spray is carried off into the pond. We can see the spray blowing in the wind.

I have been an oncology nurse for over 22 years. There is an extremely high population of people in Maine diagnosed with cancer. Is the spray of fungicides, herbicides and pesticides contributing to this cancer rate? Is it fair to expose our families to this spray? Our children? Isn't there a better way?

I would think that, at least, notification of when and where the spraying is going to take place, would be a simple consideration.

Let me thank you in advance for considering changing practices to reduce health risks to community members, our soil and water. Life is short, perhaps with your help the aerial sprayers of Hancock County won't make it any shorter.

Sincerely,

Maureen Giffin

Maureen Giffin RN  
Hospice Manager  
Hancock County Homecare & Hospice  
P.O. Box 156  
Blue Hill, Maine 04614  
207-374-5510 ext. 120

JUN 21 2007

6/20/07

To the Maine Pesticides Control Board:

I am writing to express my opposition to aerial spraying of pesticides in Maine. I am especially concerned with the spraying of blueberry fields that occurs near my home. I am worried about the long-term health effects of these chemicals on me and my husband and my unborn child.

I feel that it is not fair for the public to be exposed to chemicals that could cause cancer, ~~to~~ respiratory problems, or other problems that may not be known yet. When aerial spraying occurs, we cannot control ~~where~~ where the wind will take these chemicals and we are all affected.

Thank you for opening this topic to public commentary.

Sincerely,  
Emilie Hermans

From: Jennings, Henry  
Sent: Wednesday, June 20, 2007 4:57 PM  
To: Schlein, Paul B  
Subject: FW: aerial spraying

-----Original Message-----

From: gabrielle wellman [mailto:gabrielle@prexar.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 20, 2007 10:10 AM  
To: Jennings, Henry  
Subject: aerial spraying

Dear Mr. Jennings,

I am writing to urge you to cease aerial spraying in Maine. As we are learning more and more, all of us are being exposed to more carcinogens in our water and air. Please do your part to stop us from poisoning ourselves any further,

thank you,

gabrielle wellman  
po box 148  
blue hill, me 04614

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 20, 2007 4:57 PM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: letter of concern

-----Original Message-----

**From:** fosilbreth@juno.com [mailto:fosilbreth@juno.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 20, 2007 1:37 PM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** letter of concern

Dear Mr. Jennings,

I am writing in regard to the practice of aerial spraying of pesticides in Maine. My family and I have recently moved to the town of Mariaville in Hancock county. Within a few days of our arrival I became aware that the blueberry fields near our home are regularly sprayed with a pesticide called Velpar. Apparently this same substance is sprayed over the nearby power lines once a year to control pests. Velpar has been known to end up in residential wells. It is also possible for it to be carried by the wind into our lungs as we breathe and onto our gardens. Velpar is a poison. This practice is poisoning our water, our food, our very bodies.

I am a nursing mother. I have two young sons. We do not deserve to be poisoned and nor do the other members of our community. It is outrageous that this practice has been allowed to go on as long as it has. It is unthinkable that it should be allowed to continue. Please put a stop to aerial spraying in Maine.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Jenny Backlund

Mother to Gilon (4) and Cedar (12 months)

From: Jennings, Henry  
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2007 7:41 AM  
To: Schlein, Paul B  
Subject: FW: Spraying blueberries

July 27...

-----Original Message-----

From: Helen Kazura [mailto:zakaru@downeast.net]  
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2007 10:39 PM  
To: Jennings, Henry  
Subject: Spraying blueberries

Mr. Jennings,

I was awakened the other morning by the helicopters doing the spraying on Merrill's fields at the top of Winkumpaugh Rd. That's my signal not to take any strolls in those fields. It'd also my signal to get out of the neighborhood and breath uncontaminated air somewhere else. I'm concerned about my pets too. Though, it's probably too late if the copters are gone.

Do you really think it is necessary use toxic substances for personal gain? What's raising blueberries all about anyway?

Sincerely,

Helen Kazura

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 27, 2007 8:02 AM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: blueberry spraying

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Jeff Smith [mailto:jeffgolf33@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 26, 2007 8:18 PM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** blueberry spraying

Henry,  
My sister's dogs were sprayed in North Ellsworth and have suffered ill effects. So I guess birds and bees are not enough for guthion. Jeff Smith

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 26, 2007 3:25 PM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: pesticide spraying

-----Original Message-----

**From:** shirley [mailto:schavet@downeast.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 26, 2007 1:57 PM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** pesticide spraying

Dear Mr. Jennings, When will Merrill Blueberry Farms finally realize that people would rather see an occasional worm than eat all the bad chemicals they put on their fields?  
I live near some of their fields and can attest to many awful experiences. Please, please try to do something about this.

Shirley Smith  
213 Winkumpaugh Rd.  
Ellsworth

From: Jennings, Henry  
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2007 7:39 AM  
To: Schlein, Paul B  
Subject: FW: blueberry ariel spraying

July 27...

-----Original Message-----

From: Judy Gray [mailto:wolfunderfoot@yahoo.com]  
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2007 6:30 AM  
To: Jennings, Henry  
Subject: blueberry ariel spraying

We have lived adjoining Allen's fields in Orland for 15 years. We have always dreaded the spraying. We are afraid that it poisons our animals and us. No wonder the bees are dying--and God knows what else. we can taste the spray--and what about all of the wild animals that live here? Eagles are in my yard everyday and hunt here. Haven't we poisoned enough of the world already? Sincerely, Judy & Gary Gray

Many have forgotten this truth, but you must not forget it. You remain responsible, forever, for what you have tamed."  
Antoine De Saint-Exupery, The Little Prince

Judy Gray

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**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 28, 2007 9:22 AM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: We need to stop pesticide spraying!

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Marilyn Voorhies [mailto:lynny@downeast.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 28, 2007 9:11 AM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Cc:** bobjonesinnz@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** We need to stop pesticide spraying!

Dear Mr. Jennings,

Please join the Maine Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides as they mount their campaign against pesticide spraying. This practice has gone on far too long and as a result, song birds are either being displaced or killed by the practice of pesticide spraying. There are much better, safer alternatives. We understand Merrill is one of the worst offenders, stubbornly refusing to acknowledge the problem.

We hope you can take positive action to stop this destructive practice.

Thanks,

Bill & Marilyn Voorhies  
38 Clark Point Rd.  
West Tremont, ME 04612  
(207) 244-9226

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Monday, July 02, 2007 4:53 PM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: Aerial Spraying at Georges Pond Franklin, Maine

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Dana Shaw [mailto:dshaw60@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 02, 2007 4:28 PM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** Aerial Spraying at Georges Pond Franklin, Maine

Mr. Jennings,

I am writing due to my extreme concern about the aerial spraying that is going on in the area and near my home. I am the Vice-President of the Georges Pond Property Owners Association (GPPOA) in Franklin. It came up as a topic for concern at our meeting held June 24th. There are many members that are distressed about the proximity of the spraying to Georges Pond and the affects it may be having on our Pond and our health.

A few years ago my children were outside playing in the Blueberry field across the street when a helicopter started spraying with them in the area. I called then and was advised to contact the owner requesting notification of when the spraying would happen again, so that we could prepare for it. I never did do that, but I tried to make sure that they didn't go into the field again.

A month or so, again we were awakened by the sound of a helicopter flying overhead and a strong odor coming into our house. I quickly shut all the windows, but it was really too late to prevent what had already happened. I can't believe that this is good for us? At our meeting others expressed their same concerns.

To give you an idea of the distance, our home is approximately 75 feet from the field and the field is approximately 200 feet from Georges Pond. This field has only one culvert which drains directly into Georges Pond. Just looking at it makes me think that this is not a good thing.

I have been trying to collect data on this issue and had no idea that there was so much out there. I was informed by an individual that this aerial spraying is legal as long as they have the correct permits under the Clean Water Act. Is this true and if so, how can we find out if they have the correct permits and are following the law? Is there any agency that will come in and test for these types of chemical and insure us that they are at safe levels? I know that there was a sign up a couple of years ago that they were using Guithion on these fields, but I am sure there are other ones they use too. I have had some recent health issues as others in the area. I am not saying they are connected, but I am also not saying they are not. We just would like to have our minds put at ease about this issue and the only way to have that done is by getting our water tested along with getting more information about this subject. I would appreciate a prompt response. Thank you.

Respectfully,  
Dana A Shaw

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[PC Magazine s 2007 editors choice for best web mail award-winning Windows Live Hotmail.](#)

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 03, 2007 8:09 AM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: Blueberries

-----Original Message-----

**From:** NHath@aol.com [mailto:NHath@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 03, 2007 6:35 AM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** Blueberries

Dear Mr Jennings,

More and more I am hearing stories about the disease causing results of blueberry spraying. We must stop this poisonous spraying immediately. I ask for your attention to this immediately.

Until then the following are extremely important:

- Tell local people when spraying will be taking place.
- If there are people outdoors, DO NOT spray
- Educate people about spraying
- Make a bigger buffer zone between people and spray
- Use the least toxic pesticides
- Use alternatives
- Ask the state to restart the monitoring of spray drift
- Protect migrant workers

Please write me back telling me of your intentions and confirming receipt of this letter.

Thank you  
Nancy Hathaway  
541 Morgan Bay Road  
Surry, Maine 04684

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See what's free at [AOL.com](http://AOL.com).

From: Jennings, Henry  
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2007 9:17 AM  
To: Schlein, Paul B  
Subject: FW: Aerial Spraying of Pesticides on Blueberry Fields

-----Original Message-----

From: Giffin, Maureen [mailto:MGiffin@emh.org]  
Sent: Monday, July 09, 2007 10:23 PM  
To: Jennings, Henry  
Subject: Aerial Spraying of Pesticides on Blueberry Fields

Dear Mr. Jennings,

I am writing you to express my concern regarding aerial spraying of pesticides on blueberry fields in Surry, Blue Hill and Orland, Maine. I live on Toddy Pond and often worry about being accidentally sprayed. The helicopters fly right over our house, we can see them spray the field across the pond. I can't begin to tell you how disturbing this is. I can't help but to think that this spray is carried off into the pond. We can see the spray blowing in the wind.

I have been an oncology nurse for over 22 years. There is an extremely high population of people in Maine diagnosed with cancer. Is the spray of fungicides, herbicides and pesticides contributing to this cancer rate? Is it fair to expose our families to this spray? Our children? Isn't there a better way?

I would think that, at least, notification of when and where the spraying is going to take place, would be a simple consideration.

Let me thank you in advance for considering changing practices to reduce health risks to community members, our soil and water. Life is short, perhaps with your help the aerial sprayers of Hancock County won't make it any shorter.

Sincerely,

Maureen Giffin

Maureen Giffin RN  
Hospice Manager  
Hancock County Homecare & Hospice  
P.O. Box 156  
Blue Hill, Maine 04614  
207-374-5510 ext. 120

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2007 8:39 AM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: People vs. corporations

-----Original Message-----

**From:** margaret smith [mailto:msmithpeg@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 06, 2007 9:48 PM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** People vs. corporations

The time is moving rapidly towards the killing of pesticides in the blueberry fields. In this 21st century there ought to be a better way to accomplish this than spraying from helicopters or airplanes.

Aerial spraying of pesticides puts humans, birds and beneficial insects at great risks. Perhaps the pesticide spraying is part of the "Empty hives" in the most beneficial of all insects, bees. Perhaps the pesticide spraying is part of the increase in illness among the children and adults who live near blueberry fields and are affected by the drift.

The Maine Board of Pesticide Control ought to act responsibly to protect public health instead of corporate interests. The drift onto residents, their animals or property without their knowledge or permission causes sickness and contaminates the air, water and soil. Children waiting for a school bus were sprayed directly in June of 2006 in Surry. Did the BPC act responsibly concerning their health for the rest of the year? What happens to people's well water after spraying? Is it tested immediately, or after the next one or two rains?

Ground based pesticide spraying and use of a less toxic plant derived alternative to pesticides might be much more beneficial to humans, animals, the air, the water and the soil.

Please find a better way to kill only the pests that harm the blueberry crops.  
Peggy Smith, Surry Maine

Hi to all cats and dogs whose guardians receive a message from my guardian. I have just received my Spring hair cut, and this time I really do look like a Porty instead of a poodle.

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Luggage? GPS? Comic books?  
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**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2007 2:36 PM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: Stop Aerial Spraying of Pesticides

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Michael Paige [mailto:mtp@4webpaiges.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 06, 2007 4:53 PM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Subject:** Stop Aerial Spraying of Pesticides

I just finished reading a very alarming article about the use and the application of pesticides in Hancock County.

My wife and I retired and spent the last two years building our year round house on Toddy Pond. We decided on this area because of its abundance of clean water, clean air, wildlife, and open space.

It is shocking to us, that the spraying of a dangerous chemical aurally is done without any regard for the individuals and families that live in these areas. To dump pesticides from an airplane with no concern for the residents in that area is wrong. We are not a third world country that is controlled by a group of people that are above the law both morally and ethically. How can an industry or a State Board, (blueberry growers and Maine Board of Pesticide Control) govern their business without any concern for the citizens that live in Maine? Why are children being sprayed? Why residents are not informed of the long term effects of being exposed to pesticides on a regular basis?

What is the short and long term effect on our water source, air, and the food we grow and eat?

We need action now, you can not ignore or defy that there is a potential catastrophic ending to this issue. The management or lack of management of aerial spraying of pesticides does affect the people of Hancock County, and we need to be protected by you, before Maine has its own "Love Canal".

Regards,

Michael and Ellen Paige  
Orland, ME

No virus found in this outgoing message.

Checked by AVG Free Edition.

Version: 7.5.476 / Virus Database: 269.10.1/888 - Release Date: 7/6/2007 6:36 AM

**From:** Jennings, Henry  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2007 2:07 PM  
**To:** Schlein, Paul B  
**Subject:** FW: Toddy Pond Watershed

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Thomas Dean [mailto:tdean@tcreal.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 07, 2007 10:38 AM  
**To:** Jennings, Henry  
**Cc:** Bob Jones  
**Subject:** Toddy Pond Watershed

Hi Henry,  
My wife and I have been privileged to frequent Toddy Pond for several years and are in the process of moving down there permanently. Last summer I noticed the spraying for pesticides that was occurring on the blueberry fields to the west of the pond. I could see the helicopter from the pond as it turned many times passing over the trees.

This spraying has to be occurring within the Toddy Pond watershed. My wife and I are sensitive to pollutants of any type but just as important, if not more so, are the many varieties of wildlife on and around the pond that are placed in jeopardy by this activity. I will not take the time to describe the documented hazards of this spraying as I am sure you are already aware of them. I hope you will support those of us who wish to protect this most valuable resource.

Thank You,  
Tom

Thomas Dean  
Sales Agent, Town & Country, Realtors  
140 High Street  
Ellsworth, Maine 04603  
207 667 7557 ext.106  
[www.town-countryrealtors.com](http://www.town-countryrealtors.com)

From: Jennings, Henry Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2007 7:39 AM To: Schlein, Paul B Subject: FW: blueberry ariel spraying July 27... -----Original Message----- From: Judy Gray [mailto: wolfunderfoot@yahoo.com] Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2007 6:30 AM To: Jennings, Henry Subject: blueberry ariel spraying We have lived adjoining Allen's fields in Orland for 15 years. We have always dreaded the spraying. We are afraid that it poisons our animals and us. No wonder the bees are dying-- and God knows what else. we can taste the spray--and what about all of the wild animals that live here? Eagles are in my yard everyday and hunt here. Haven't we poisoned enough of the world already? Sincerely, Judy & Gary Gray Many have forgotten this truth, but you must not forget it. You remain responsible, forever, for what you have tamed." Antoine De Saint-Exupery, The Little Prince Judy Gray

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