

Beyond Toxics Top Feisty Achievements

1

PROTECTIONS FROM AERIAL HERBICIDE SPRAYS.

For the first time, the Oregon Legislature put human health into the Oregon Forest Practices Act. Beyond Toxics brought dozens and dozens of Oregon's rural families to the State Capitol to press for stricter regulations on aerial herbicide spray after incidents of devastating harm! We will be coming back in the next session to ensure full protections. Oregon should not allow poisons, such as carcinogens and hormone disruptors, to be sprayed from the sky!

2

HONEY BEES AND BUMBLE BEES ARE BETTER PROTECTED.

Beyond Toxics was the first environmental organization in the nation to successfully introduce a ban on neonicotinoid pesticides for an entire city! Thanks to our efforts, Eugene and Portland have banned the use of the bee-killing pesticides. Ending the use of neonicotinoids also protects Oregon's water quality, as well as birds, butterflies and other beneficial species.

3

OREGON'S AIR IS CLEANER AND NEIGHBORHOODS ARE PROTECTED.

Beyond Toxics spearheaded the innovative law that prohibits topping off the gas tanks of cars and trucks at service stations. The new law also requires vapor capture for the huge underground gasoline storage tanks. Why is this important? Gasoline fumes contain high levels of benzene, a known carcinogen associated with childhood leukemia. Now that benzene fumes are no longer released into the air, workers, car occupants and nearby neighborhoods are breathing cleaner air and reducing their cancer risk.

4

SCHOOL CHILDREN AND TEACHERS ARE SAFE FROM PESTICIDE EXPOSURE AT SCHOOLS.

After Beyond Toxics published our report detailing dozens of student pesticide poisonings at Oregon public schools, the Oregon Legislature passed our recommended legislation to curtail pesticide use at schools. No pesticides are allowed to be sprayed while children are on a school campus, nor are pesticides allowed for aesthetic purposes or as routine treatments.

5

SUMMER DAYS ARE CLEAR NOW THAT GRASS SEED BURNING IS OVER IN THE WILLAMETTE VALLEY.

Beyond Toxics was the first organization to expose how the archaic and hazardous practice of burning thousands of acres of grass seed stubble caused an increased risk of asthma attacks, COPD, stroke and heart attacks for residents in the lower Willamette Valley. Using a public health lens, we worked with the Western Environmental Law Center to convince the Legislature to ban the practice. Ever since, grass seed farmers have enjoyed economic benefits from rotating grass seed with other cash crops.

6

THE IMPORTANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IS GAINING GROUND IN OREGON.

Beyond Toxics submitted Oregon's first official reports on the relationship between environmental pollution and disadvantaged communities. These reports went to communities, state agencies and polluting corporations. Our strong, innovative environmental justice work is playing a significant role in changing land use codes, public health policies, worker protection regulations and forestry policies for a future of protection and health for all.

Campaigns That Move Oregon Forward To True Environmental Leadership

1

CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE.

As Oregon's first environmental justice organization, Beyond Toxics is one of Oregon's top leaders in the movement for healthy climate policies that provide benefits fairly across Oregon's populations – rural, disadvantaged urban, communities of low-income and color and middle class working folks. It's good to wean ourselves off coal, but Oregon must also prioritize non-polluting energy and equitable access to carbon tax benefits and good jobs. Beyond Toxics is working with a large coalition to ensure fair, clean and distributed renewable energy!

2

PROTECTING OREGON'S FORESTS AND THE RURAL COMMUNITIES THAT DEPEND ON HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS.

It's long past time to overhaul Oregon's weak and deficient logging rules. Beyond Toxics is a top leader of a movement to stop aerial herbicide sprays and promote bio-diverse and sustainable working forests. Let's stand tall for healthy forests, clean rivers, safe drinking water and communities that no longer fear the sound of an approaching helicopter poised to spray poisons over their homes and schools. We want drinking water without poisons!

3

LEADING A STATEWIDE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MOVEMENT.

Starting in September 2015, Beyond Toxics and our allies held the first statewide Environmental Justice Forum. It was attended by farm workers, forestry workers, restaurant workers and key leaders in our state government and agencies. This event has launched a statewide call to action to do more to make sure our land and our workers are both protected from toxic pollution. This spring we will organize hearings, forums and possibly, with your help, introduce new legislation that recognizes the bonds between a healthy environment and healthy people!



www.BeyondToxics.org
541-465-8860 | info@beyondtoxics.org
P.O. Box 1106, Eugene, OR 97440