



THE NORTHWEST CENTER FOR
ALTERNATIVES TO PESTICIDES

ANNUAL REPORT | 2012 - 2013



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NCAP
P.O. Box 1393
Eugene, OR 97440

541.344.5044
info@pesticide.org
www.pesticide.org

FROM THE DIRECTOR



We use too many pesticides. Nearly one billion pounds are used in the U.S. annually, with most of those being used in agriculture. While NCAP has made a lot of progress, it's clear there is more to do.

For over 36 years, we have worked to raise awareness about pesticide risks and improve laws protecting people and wildlife. On the facing page, you'll see that this year we've extended those efforts to bees. Because of your support, we're helping farmers create and preserve pollinator habitat in Idaho, supporting host-a-hive programs in Oregon, and working on a national law to scrap pesticides that harm bees.

In this report, you'll also read about how we're bringing ground truth to the halls of power in Washington, DC regarding pesticides and food policy, and how we are protecting children from exposure to pesticides. Finally, you'll get a peek at some big things we're planning for next year.

All of us at NCAP are passionate about creating a world that is safe from the toxic threat of pesticides. We know you're passionate about that too, and we thank you for your help and dedication. We invite you to stay engaged in the coming year as we continue this work with promising new projects.

Kim Leval
Executive Director

2012 Expenses

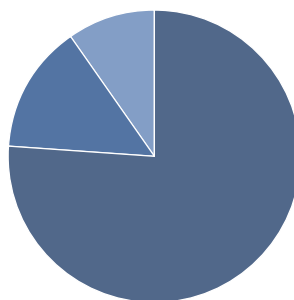
Program Services	\$348,984
Management and General	\$64,404
Fundraising	\$44,176
Total Expenses	\$457,564

Change in Net Assets	(\$8,249)
Net Assets Beginning	\$470,579
Net Assets Ending	\$462,330

2012 Revenue

Contributions	\$118,723
Memberships	\$34,244
Donated Services	\$7,482
Donated Goods	\$9,500
Grants	\$260,801
Special Events	\$1,935
Program Services	\$6,323
Interest & Dividends	\$4,024
Investment Income	\$5,953
Miscellaneous	\$330

Total Revenue \$449,315



76% Program Services
14% Management & General
10% Fundraising



Bee Aware

June in Oregon's Willamette Valley is about as close to perfect as it gets...

The archetypal Northwest rains are gone, burnt away by the hot-but-not-too-hot early summer sun, and the landscape is bright green and blooming. Everything seems to come alive all at once.

It's against this vibrant backdrop that an incident in Wilsonville, Oregon stands out, a stark wound on our conscience, and one that hints at a much larger and more dangerous ecological injury.

Over a period of several days, more than 50,000 native bees and other pollinators perished in a parking lot, falling dead from the flowering linden trees that had drawn them there. It is now acknowledged as the single largest bumble bee-kill on record. It is also recognized, now without dispute, as the direct result of a pesticide application – an improper pesticide application some have argued – but one that still underscores the major role that pesticides must play in the ongoing bee decline.

Pesticides, especially the widely used systemics called neonicotinoids, have long been implicated as a factor in Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) – an increasingly severe phenomenon where entire honeybee hives die or completely disappear. But their significant impacts on other kinds of bees and pollinators have often been an afterthought. The Wilsonville event illustrated that native pollinators, like the bumble bee, are also at ground zero when it comes to exposure, and that the results can be horrific. We all rely on bees. They pollinate over a third of the food crops that are crucial to human society. Our well-being is tied to their well-being, so it's a given that we need to protect them from harm caused by pesticides.

NCAP has given pollinators top priority among our programs going into next year. We're delving into on-the-ground projects that provide farmers with strategies for pollinator habitat conservation throughout Idaho and fighting to preserve federal funding for such projects. We're also helping to expand a local "host-a-hive" bee rescue program in Eugene, Oregon.

Perhaps the most difficult task we are pursuing is the advancement of HR 2692, the Saving America's Pollinators Act: a bill that would put a moratorium on neonicotinoid pesticides in the United States. We are actively campaigning on this bill, seeking support from Representatives throughout the Northwest and beyond. Currently, the bill has 39 co-sponsors.

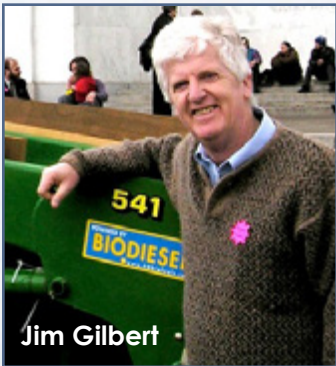
Passing federal legislation is hard, and a bill like this is especially difficult to move through a Congress like ours. But we think big problems need big solutions, and we see a ban on neonicotinoids as the right step to take.

Your involvement is crucial to our success. If you are passionate about bees and looking to do something about it, please contact us and learn how you can be a part of this vital campaign.

Volunteer with NCAP and help Save the Bees!

Contact us at info@pesticide.org and learn how you can get involved with this crucial campaign!

Real People, Real Progress



The Farm Bill is far from perfect.

In fact, some view it as a lost cause. The main reason for this is that the Farm Bill has become too focused on a few major commodity crops, ignoring the larger character and diverse needs of agriculture in the U.S.

Family farms, organic and conservation practices, the growing movements around local and sustainable food – these are items that often get struck in budget negotiations, assuming they aren't overlooked entirely. Meanwhile, enormous subsidies are handed to industrial farms and corporations, most of which specialize in precisely the kind of short sighted, pesticide-intensive farming that we need to move beyond!

Farmers should be better served by the Farm Bill. That's why NCAP has made it a priority to shift the bill's focus back to real farms, real sustainability, and most importantly, real people. To do this, we're sending real people to Congress. Using granted funds from Farm Aid, we sent Jim Gilbert, a farmer from Molalla, Oregon, to Washington D.C. Jim runs Northwoods Nursery, a wholesale fruit tree and shrub nursery on 66 acres in the Willamette Valley. He's also committed to protecting the environment. Jim's was the first nursery to be certified by Salmon Safe, a regional certification program that recognizes operations that have low-to-no impacts on native salmon. In 2011, Jim also received the Oregon Sustainability Award.

While in D.C., Jim spoke with his congressional delegation about the value of using the Farm Bill to fund research into alternatives to pesticides, organic farming, and on-farm conservation...and the timing couldn't have been better. Jim's Representative is Kurt Schrader, a Democrat serving on the House Agriculture Committee who was recently appointed to the Farm Bill Conference committee – a crucial person to reach with our message.

"Having someone from Oregon in DC, that is actually farming, is so important," Jim says. "There were lots of lobbyists in suits walking the halls and they don't know a rootstalk from an apple. A real farmer walking those same hallways brings a lot of credibility and ground truthing."

Jim wasn't alone. Sixty other farmers from around the country went to D.C. during the annual spring "farmer fly-in" coordinated by the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition. NCAP has participated with this before, and will again.

Jim sees progress being made and plans to continue his conversation with Representative Schrader. We do too. In fact, NCAP is now working with farmers to set up a farm tour for Schrader and his staff. But Jim knows that Congress has many issues to deal with, and that it takes the sustained efforts of many to get politicians invested in sustainable agriculture. "They need to hear from farmers and they need the reality check of what is really needed on the ground," Jim says. Then he adds, "Politics is the art of the possible. You rarely get 100 percent of what you want."



Healthy Kids

Protecting kids from pesticides has always been a top priority for NCAP. Our focus over the last few years has been on schools, since that's where children spend much of their time. In 2013, we helped protect roughly 40,000 kids by eliminating some of the most dangerous pesticide uses in Oregon schools, and by prompting improvements to pesticide reduction criteria within school sustainability programs. We'll continue on this path, bringing our successes from Oregon to other states in our region...but we want to do more.

Infants and toddlers are highly vulnerable to the health impacts of pesticides, and those impacts are increasingly visible. The American Academy of Pediatrics recently highlighted the crucial need to prevent early life toxic exposures in their report, *Pesticide Exposure in Children*. Among their many findings, the report says that "epidemiologic evidence demonstrates associations between early life exposure to pesticides and pediatric cancers, decreased cognitive function, and behavioral problems."

In 2014, we will expand our efforts to help ensure a healthy start for newborns and young children. We'll be reaching out to new and expecting parents, pediatricians, and child care providers through community events and discussion groups, building a grassroots movement of families and professionals aimed at eliminating pesticide exposure during these most critical years in child development.

Are you a new or expecting parent? Contact us at info@pesticide.org and find out how you can play an important role in protecting children from pesticides.

Have you ever wanted to **BREAK** something?

By now it's common knowledge (common sense, if you prefer...) that pesticides are linked to a wide range of human health and environmental issues. Yet, toxic chemicals are often still the tool of choice for many in addressing pest management needs. In fact, the EPA reports that roughly a billion pounds of pesticides are used in the United States each year, and that's only what gets reported!

One billion pounds is a staggering amount to attempt to visualize, but with cancer rates on the rise and bee populations in decline, it isn't difficult to understand the extent of what we are doing to the environment and ourselves. Many of the world's most popular pesticides are known carcinogens and mutagens.

In 2014, NCAP will launch a major new grassroots campaign called, "Break the Billion." Something large enough and strong enough to wrestle that big number, 1 billion pounds of pesticides, down to something a little less frightening.

BREAK *the* BILLION



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