

IEM Committee

From: Karen Chun <karenchunmaui@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2016 11:09 AM
To: IEM Committee
Cc: Elle Cochran
Subject: Testimony re Pesticide Free Parks
Attachments: haiku-school-doc.pdf; Napili-Park.pdf; Photos-of-Hana-Highway-June-17-2015.pdf

To IEM Committee
From Karen Chun, 87 Lae St, Paia HI 96779

My poor little park (Makana at the top of Lae St. Paia) has been sprayed twice recently.

On February 5, I'm out walking the dogs and this big spraying rig with outrigger sprayers drives up to the park. I ask "what are you spraying?" and he says "herbicide."

I say "What kind of herbicide?"

and he says, "It's safe"

So I say "what is the NAME? Is it Roundup?"

"No."

"Well what is it?"

"It's safe" is the only reply.

I want to know the name "So what are you spraying?"

"It's a mixture of a lot of things."

This goes on for about 5 minutes with him refusing to tell me what he is spraying.

What is going on with our county that they are AFRAID to disclose what they are spraying on the park grass where our children play?"

My friend Linda Thomas was with me this morning. We couldn't believe how rude this guy became when confronted. She took her dog there this evening and he was eating grass on the banks, so she had to stop him.

I called The East Maui parks guy, and he was so responsive and helpful. He said that this was something the "Beautification Department" sprays for clover on a schedule called Benvel.

I looked it up and Benvel is Dicamba by Dupont.

The East Maui Parks division themselves has ceased using Roundup and isn't responsible for this Benvel application. Their department has just in the last couple weeks taken Michael Gagne's advice and switched to Avenger (which is the orange oil herbicide).

Why can't we stop poisoning our parks? By the way, after they spray, it kills back the shower trees and poinsienna trees in the park that seem to be particularly sensitive to herbicides. So I'm thinking this isn't "Beautification". It is poisonous "Uglification"

This park is under constant use by children, toddlers, pregnant moms, barefoot soccer players, dogs etc - all of them in intimate bare skin contact with the grass. The afternoon after the County sprayed the field there was a soccer game. At least one player was barefoot. Off to the side their young children and toddlers were playing their own soccer game, falling on the grass, their skin in contact.



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This is from Mar 15 about 6:30am. Last time this big tanker- sprayer came last month, a park employee told me they were spraying dicamba. The guy spraying wouldn't tell me what he was spraying and I called to find out. He said he was from the beautification dept of parks

Half the grass and all the clover is already dead. I have no idea why they sprayed again. I was told they are on a "schedule"

AND - when he left just now, he took the sign. The poison cannot possibly be dry now and all the dog walkers are going to come and get their dogs poisoned not even knowing he sprayed.

So the sign from start to finish was up for less than an hour and removed when he finished spraying - NOT when the poison was dry.

The spray damages the poinsienna trees. These trees do lose their leaves seasonally but those in my backyard are all green. The ones in the park are bare, with dead branch tips.

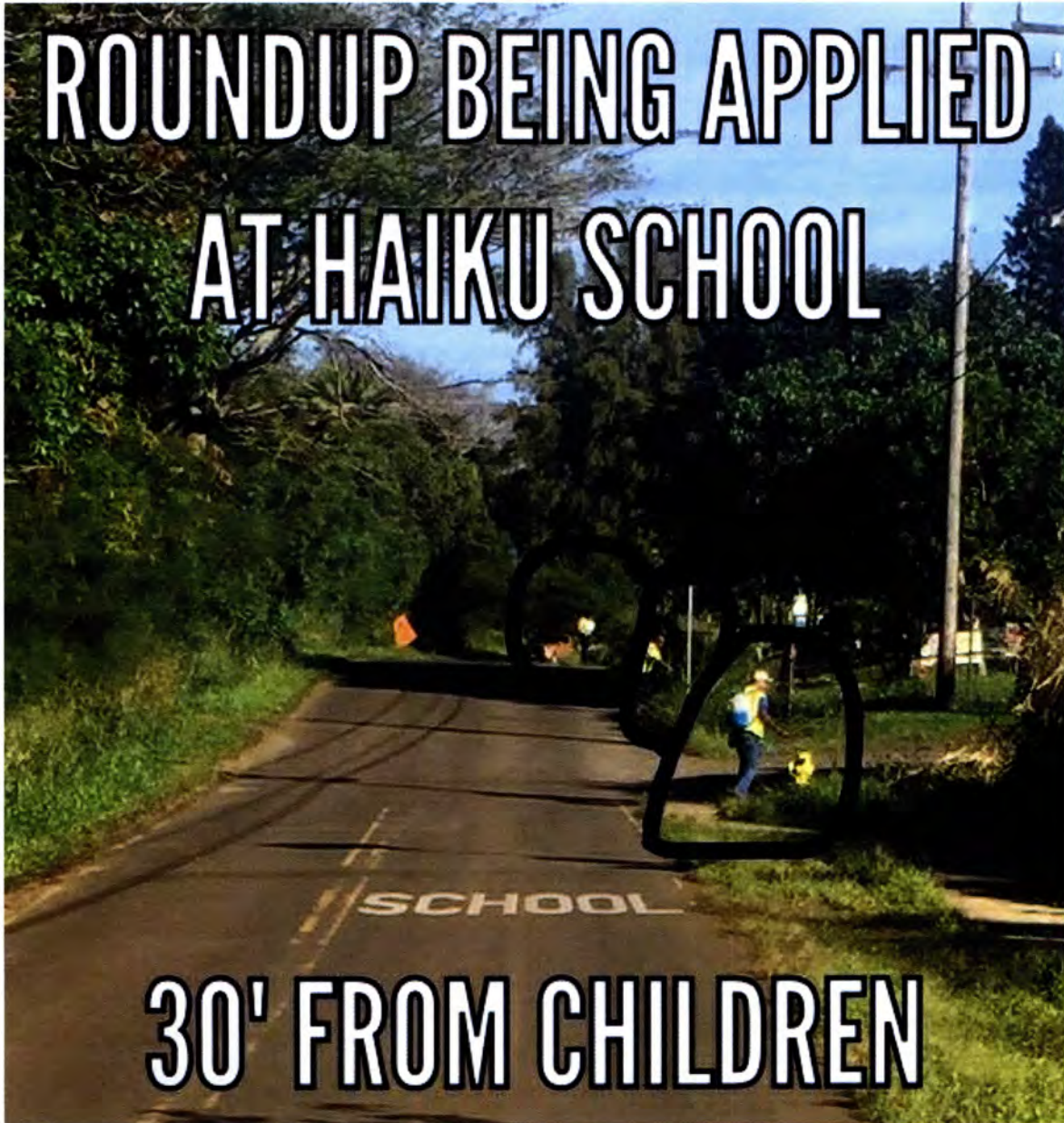


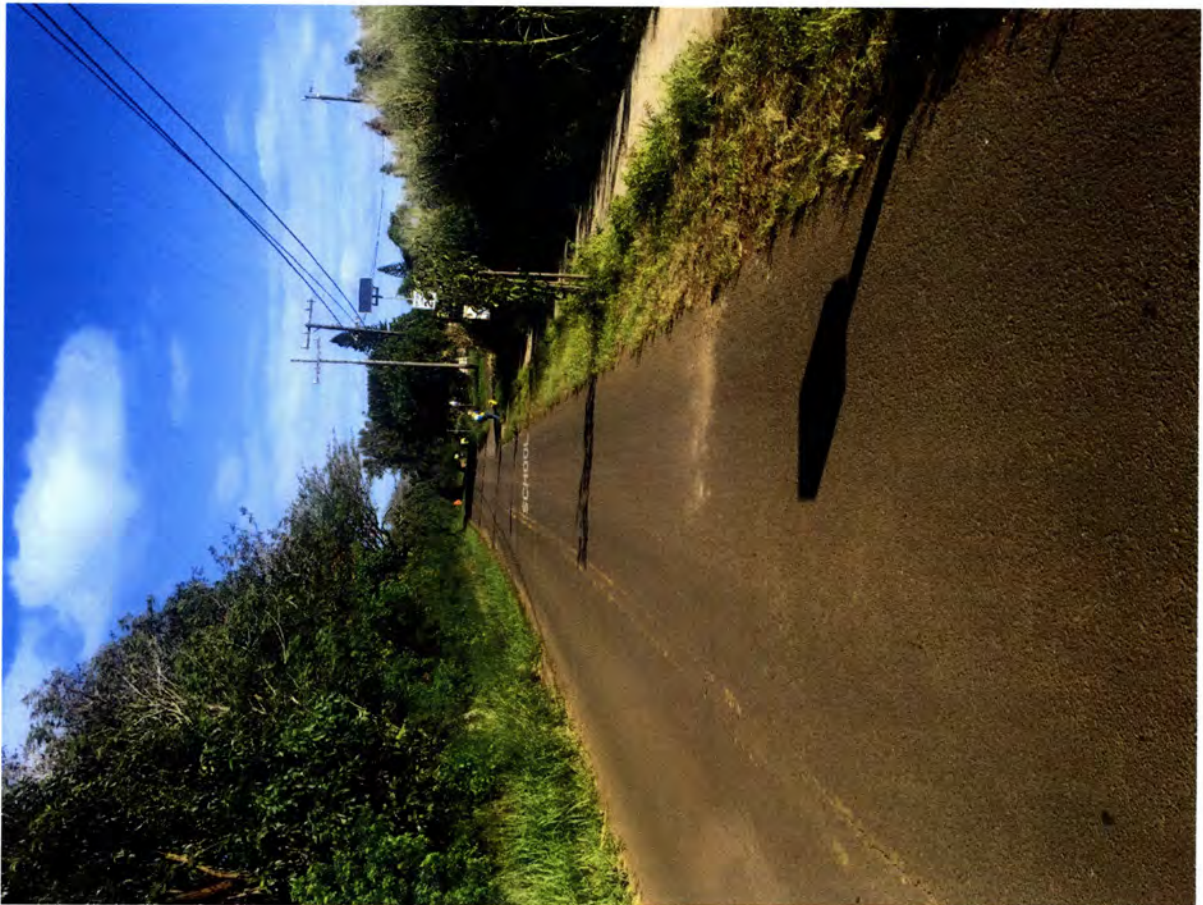
I have attached some more reports and photos from my friends on Facebook:

Please move to pesticide-free parks. Don't make our children play in poison.

Karen Chun

Photos taken by Sunny Savage, of the road and property around Haiku School being sprayed on January 4, 2016.







March 1, 2016 8 am: Facebook Post on Tamara Paltin's wall by Hans Sucher



How do we get them to spray microorganisms instead of poison @ Napili park. This stuff kills everything in its path, Microorganisms promote life. Keep the park users safe especially the ones most likely to be rolling in the dirt/poison our kids and pets.



Last pic had a guy in a spray truck on the soccer field portion of park. He is covered head to toe in a Hazmat suit. This pic shows the sign saying keep out. My family and I use this park everyday and sometimes 3xs a day. Haven't we learned that poison only compounds the problem killing any naturally occurring defenses that are already in place?

Follow up comment

"Signs gone as of 8:43"

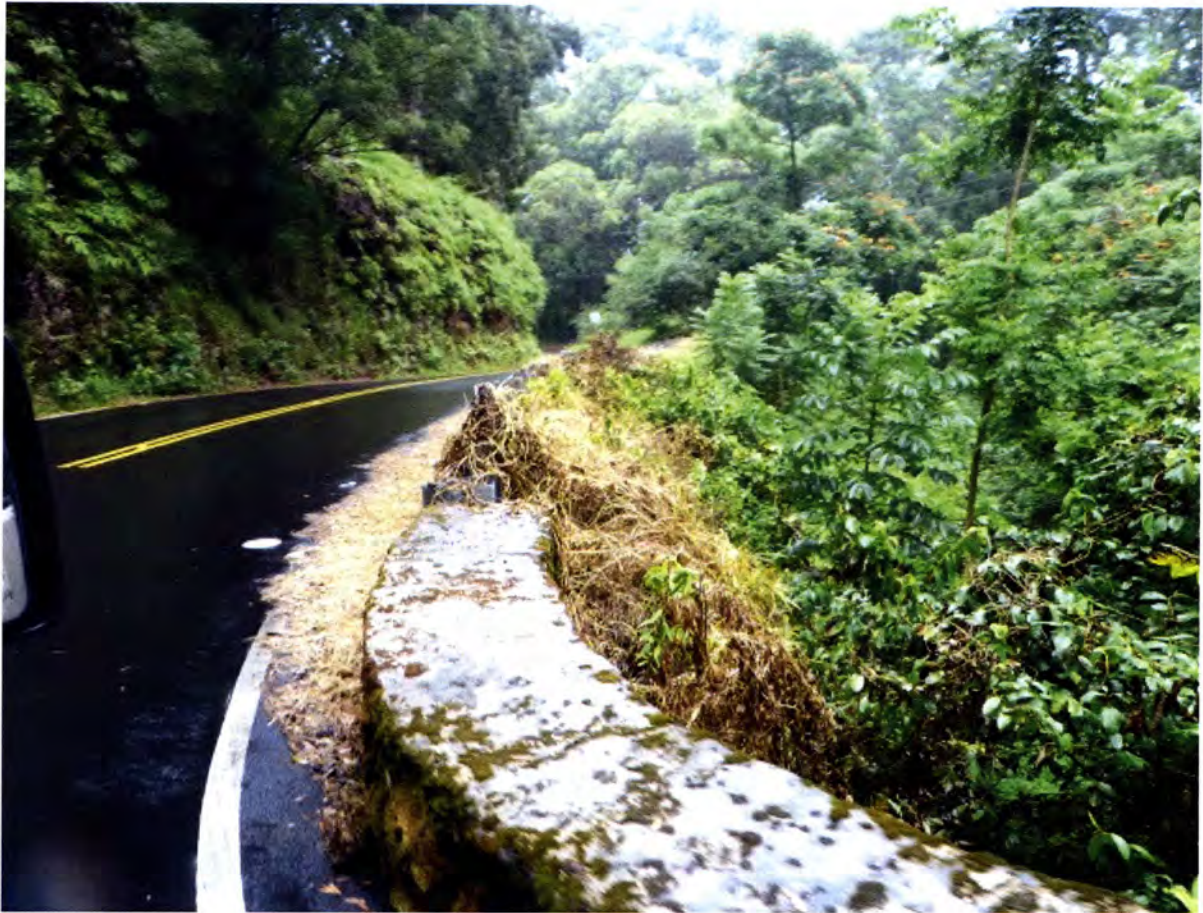
Photos of Hana Highway, taken on July 7th, 2015













IEM Committee

From: Haley Randell <Haley@CenterforFoodSafety.org>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2016 6:16 PM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: HCFS Testimony for pesticide-free parks
Attachments: Ashley_Sylvia_Maui Parks Testimony.docx

Aloha Infrastructure and Environmental Management Committee,

Please see attached testimony for the Hawai'i Center for Food Safety's Ashley Lukens & Sylvia Wu, who will be testifying via video-conference. The testimony is in support of pesticide-free parks.

Mahalo,

Haley Randell
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Maui Infrastructure and Environmental Management Committee

Hawai'i Center for Food Safety Strongly Supports Pesticide-Free Maui Parks

Dear Chair Cochran, Vice Chair Hokama and Members of the Committee,

My name is Dr. Ashley Lukens and I am the Hawai'i Director for the Center for Food Safety (CFS). CFS is a nationwide public interest, sustainable agriculture nonprofit organization whose mission centers on furthering the public's right to know how their food is produced, through labeling and other means. We have over 750,000 farmer and consumer members across the country, including nearing 10,000 in Hawai'i. On behalf of CFS and our members, I thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today regarding this important issue.

CFS has been dedicated to addressing the human health and environmental impacts of our increased reliance on pesticide use in food production, both in the State of Hawai'i and nationally. We were instrumental in providing legal and communications support in the passage of numerous ordinances relating to pesticide use and disclosure, such as Kaua'i's Bill 2491. Since 2014, as the inaugural director here in Hawai'i, I have worked closely with community members across the state, in all counties, and have played an instrumental role in the passage of Maui's moratorium on GE production until companies submit environmental and public health impact assessments.

I am writing in strong support of implementing integrated pest and environmental management on Maui County Property. Pesticide-free parks are imperative to create safe places for children and families to gather and play.

While children often explore with their hands and put objects in their mouth, they are inadvertently putting the chemicals from the playscape, grass, and sandboxes in their mouths as well. Parks are a place that parents should think of first to enjoy a day with their child, but with the medical literature piling up about the negative effects of pesticide exposure on developing bodies, parks are not as safe as they seem.

It is critical that the county take action to reduce childhood pesticide exposure because toxic exposure to pesticides during fetal,ⁱ neonatal,ⁱⁱ and infant life can disrupt critical developmental processes.ⁱⁱⁱ Early life pesticide exposure has been linked to long-term health effects including cancer,^{iv} decreased cognitive function,^{v,vi,vii} behavior problems,^{viii,ix} birth defects and other adverse birth outcomes,^{x,xi} and asthma.^{xii}

Specifically, according to a 2012 report by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) entitled "Pesticide Exposure in Children," children exposed to chronic, low-level exposure to pesticides

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are at a risk of neurodevelopmental disabilities like autism and ADHD^{xiii,xiv,xv,xvi}, leukemia^{xvii,xviii,xix}, and asthma^{xx,xxi,xxii}.

Nine of the ten studies examining pesticides and brain cancer that have been conducted since 1998 demonstrated an **increased risk estimate of brain tumors with maternal and/or paternal exposure to pesticides**, though not all achieved statistical significance. One study, which involved 321 cases, demonstrated that **maternal exposure to insecticides before or during pregnancy was associated with a 90% greater risk of astrocytoma** (a type of brain cancer) in the child, as well as a trend to higher risk in exposed fathers^{xxiii}.

While many progressive states like Connecticut and cities like Portland, OR and Seattle, WA have mandated pesticide-free parks and playgrounds^{xxiv}, Hawai'i lags behind and still allows chemicals to be sprayed in areas that our keiki frequent. Due to the overwhelming medical literature on the negative effects of pesticide exposure on children, I strongly urge Maui County to remove toxic pesticides from county parks.

It is entirely within the authority of Maui County to impose limitations on the use of pesticides on County property. For example, California and Ohio both contain clauses in their states' relative pesticide statutes that expressly preempt local regulation of pesticides.^{xxv} Yet, counties in both states have enacted pesticide management policy and ordinances that would regulate and ban the uses of certain pesticides on county lands, citing concern with the potential impacts of pesticide use on human health and the local environment.^{xxvi} The lack of any ongoing litigation challenges to these measures further support the legality of the County's proposed actions to remove toxic pesticides from county lands.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony, and I am happy to provide further analysis or respond to any follow-up questions from the Committee.

Respectfully,



Ashley Lukens, PhD
Director, Hawai'i Center for Food Safety



Sylvia Wu
Staff Attorney, Hawai'i Center for Food Safety / Center for Food Safety

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- ⁱ Rull RP, Gunier R, Von Behren J, Hertz A, Crouse V, Buffler PA, and Reynolds P. 2009. Residential Proximity to Agricultural Pesticide Applications and Childhood Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. *Environmental Research*, 109(7): 891-899.
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- ⁱⁱⁱ Shelton, JF et al. 2014. Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Prenatal Residential Proximity to Agricultural Pesticides: The CHARGE Study. *Environmental Health Perspective*, 122(10): 1103-1110.
- ^{iv} Infante-Rivard C, Labuda D, Krajinovic M, Sinnett D. 1999. Risk of childhood leukemia associated with exposure to pesticides and with gene polymorphisms. *Epidemiology* 10(5): 481-487.
- ^v Rauh V, Arunajadai S, Horton M, et al. 2011. Seven-year neurodevelopmental scores and prenatal exposure to chlorpyrifos, a common agricultural pesticide. *Environ Health Perspect*. 119(8): 1196–1201.
- ^{vi} Bouchard MF, Chevrier J, Harley KG, et al. 2011. Prenatal exposure to organophosphate pesticides and IQ in 7-year-old children. *Environ Health Perspect*. 119(8): 1189–1195.
- ^{vii} Engel SM, Wetmur J, Chen J, et al. 2011. Prenatal exposure to organophosphates, paraoxonase 1, and cognitive development in childhood. *Environ Health Perspect*. 119(8): 1182–1188.
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- ^x Garry VF, Harkins ME, Erickson LL, Long-Simpson LK et al. 2002. Birth Defects, Season of Conception, and Sex of Children Born to Pesticide Applicators Living in the Red River Valley of Minnesota, USA. *Environmental Health Perspectives* 110 (Suppl. 3): 441-449.
- ^{xi} Garry VF, Harkins ME, Erickson LL, Long-Simpson LK et al. 2002. Birth Defects, Season of Conception, and Sex of Children Born to Pesticide Applicators Living in the Red River Valley of Minnesota, USA. *Environmental Health Perspectives* 110 (Suppl. 3): 441-449.
- ^{xii} Salam MT, Li YF, Langholz B, Gilliland FD; Children's Health Study. 2004. Early-life environmental risk factors for asthma: findings from the Children's Health Study. *Environ Health Perspect*. 112(6): 760–765.
- ^{xiii} Rauh VA, Garfinkel R, Perera FP, Andrews HF, Hoepner L, Barr DB, Whitehead R, Tang D, Whyatt R (2006) Impact of prenatal chlorpyrifos exposure on neurodevelopment in the first 3 years of life among inner-city children. *Pediatric* 118(6): e1845-e1859. www.pediatrics.org/cgi/content/full/118/6/e1845.
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- ^{xvii} Infante-Rivard C, Labuda D, Krajinovic M, Sinnett D (1999) Risk of childhood leukemia associated with exposure to pesticides and with gene polymorphisms. *Epidemiology* 10(5): 481-487.
- ^{xviii} Roberts JR, Karr CJ (2012) Pesticide Exposure in Children. *Council on Environmental Health. Pediatrics* 130(6): e1757-e1763. <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/130/6/e1757.full.html>.

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- ^{xx} Hoppin JA, Umbach DM, London SJ, Alavanja MCR, Sandler DP (2002) Chemical predictors of wheeze among farmer pesticide applicators in the Agricultural Health Study. *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine* 165: 683-689.
- ^{xxi} Salam MT, Li YF, Langholz B, Gilliland FD, Children's Health Study (2004) Early life environmental risk factors for asthma: findings from the Children's Health Study. *Environmental Health Perspective* 112(6): 760-765.
- ^{xxii} Strina A, Barreto ML, Cooper PH, Rodrigues LC (2014) Risk factors for non-atopic asthma/wheeze in children and adolescents: a systematic review. *Emerging Themes in Epidemiology* 11(5). <http://www.ete-online.com/content/11/1/5>.
- ^{xxiii} van Wijngaarden E, Stewart PA, Olshan AF, Savitz DA, Bunin GR (2003) Parental occupational exposure to pesticides and childhood brain cancer. *American Journal of Epidemiology* 157 (11): 989-997.
- ^{xxiv} Pesticide Action Network. (n.d.) Schools & Playgrounds. <http://www.panna.org/resources/schools-playgrounds>
- ^{xxv} Cal.Food & Agric.Code § 11501.1. (Exclusive regulation of registration, sale, transportation, or use of pesticides; preemption; notification; consultation); Ohio Revised Code § 921.19.
- ^{xxvi} Beyond Pesticides (Feb. 2016) Irvine, CA Adopts Organic Management Policy for City Property, <http://beyondpesticides.org/dailynewsblog/2016/02/irvine-ca-adopts-organic-management-policy-on-city-property/>; Beyond Pesticides (July 2012) Richmond, CA Unanimously Approves Pesticide Restrictions, <http://beyondpesticides.org/dailynewsblog/2012/07/richmond-california-unanimously-approves-pesticide-restrictions/>; Beyond Pesticides (April 2012) Ohio Cuyahoga County Bans Most Toxic Pesticide Use on County Property, <http://beyondpesticides.org/dailynewsblog/2012/04/ohio%E2%80%99s-cuyahoga-county-bans-most-toxic-pesticide-use-on-county-property/>.

IEM Committee

From: sunny savage <sunnysavage@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 12:16 PM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: Testimony for IEM Committee Mtg - pesticides

To the Infrastructure and Environmental Management Committee,

My name is Sunny Savage-Luskin and I am a private citizen from Haiku. After bringing my concerns and photo evidence to the Parks & Rec Committee, regarding the spraying of pesticides at Haiku School and at our Haiku Reservoir, I looked at the Maui County website and saw in the Parks Listing that there are 125 Park & Rec areas managed by the County...I was totally amazed! When residents go out to play our parks are the main point of contact people have with the natural world and the biodiversity that is unique to Maui County.

I'd like to bring to the Committee's attention to one of the lenses through which I see the world, as a forager. Imagine spending time at Ho'okipa with your family through the seasons watching the sea grapes (*Coccoloba uvifera*) ripen, only to have them be sprayed with pesticides year after year. Aweoweo (*Chenopodium oahuense*) greens being sprayed at Kanaha Park, or field and forest intersecting at Keokea Park which has been incessantly spraying wild edible plants like cat's ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*) and gotu kola (*Centella asiatica*) for years. The average number of species that a person comes into contact with at our public parks has significantly decreased as we have moved towards heavily manicured and pesticide-intense practices.

I am excited to hear today's panel of experts, who can provide us with real solutions and a model to enact. We learned from PCB's that biotech/chemical companies like Monsanto have knowingly lied to the public before, so it is encouraging to have the community engaging on this issue. I hope that the new vision where roadways and parks are kept clear through appropriate plantings & mulching techniques, mechanical management and emergency application of organic pesticides will also include a shift in the language and value we put on our wild food and medicine plants in these public places. Imagine a place where Hawaiian Traditional Practitioners can gather foods and medicines, people can walk their dogs at the park and have their children play without the worry of pesticide exposure. It is ok if it doesn't look so manicured. A healthy environment with manual clearing of trails and facilities is safe. Giving people a beautiful connection point with nature, a place outside of their homes to connect with the natural world, is satisfying and deeply nourishing.

Thank you for your consideration and work to hear the community.

Sincerely,
Sunny Savage-Luskin

IEM Committee

From: Ryan Luskin <ryan@ryanluskin.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 1:34 PM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: Spraying Near Parks and School

I applaud your efforts to eliminate the use of pesticides on roadways, and at parks and schools. Great job Elle. Seems common sense is not so common. Thank you for helping to rid our parks, schools and roadways of pesticides.

Thank you,
Ryan J. Luskin M.A.
Real Estate Salesperson R(S)
Coldwell Banker Island Properties
808-442-2957

IEM Committee

From: Grazia Caroselli <grazia2u@earthlink.net>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2016 1:10 PM
To: IEM Committee
Subject: Stop spraying pesticides on the turtles in Hawaii Please!

PLEASE! Stop spraying pesticides on the turtles in Hawaii. Please! We care very much what happens to these creatures that used to live as long as humans do.

Cordially,

Grazia Caroselli
Evolve Productions
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"Strive to not be a success, but rather to be of value" - Einstein