



PROTECT OUR POLLINATORS

SAY NO TO HARMFUL PESTICIDES

Discover how pesticides harm
important pollinators and steps to
take to protect them!



Pesticide Practices: Methods of Application and Their Reach



DIRECT SPRAY APPLICATION

When pesticides are sprayed over a field or property, they don't just target specific pests—they blanket all nearby plants with chemical residue.

Wind and light breezes can carry this spray beyond its intended area, causing pesticide drift that contaminates nearby gardens, yards, and natural habitats.

Even if you choose not to use pesticides, your surroundings may still be affected—especially if neighboring properties or farms use chemical treatments.





CONTAMINATED SOIL AND SEEDS

Many commercial seeds, mulches, and soil products now come pre-treated with pesticides. While often marketed as convenient alternatives to spraying, studies have questioned the effectiveness of these coatings.

However, these chemicals don't stay on the surface. As the treated seeds grow, the entire plant can absorb and retain toxic compounds, making leaves, nectar, and pollen harmful to pollinators throughout the plant's life cycle.





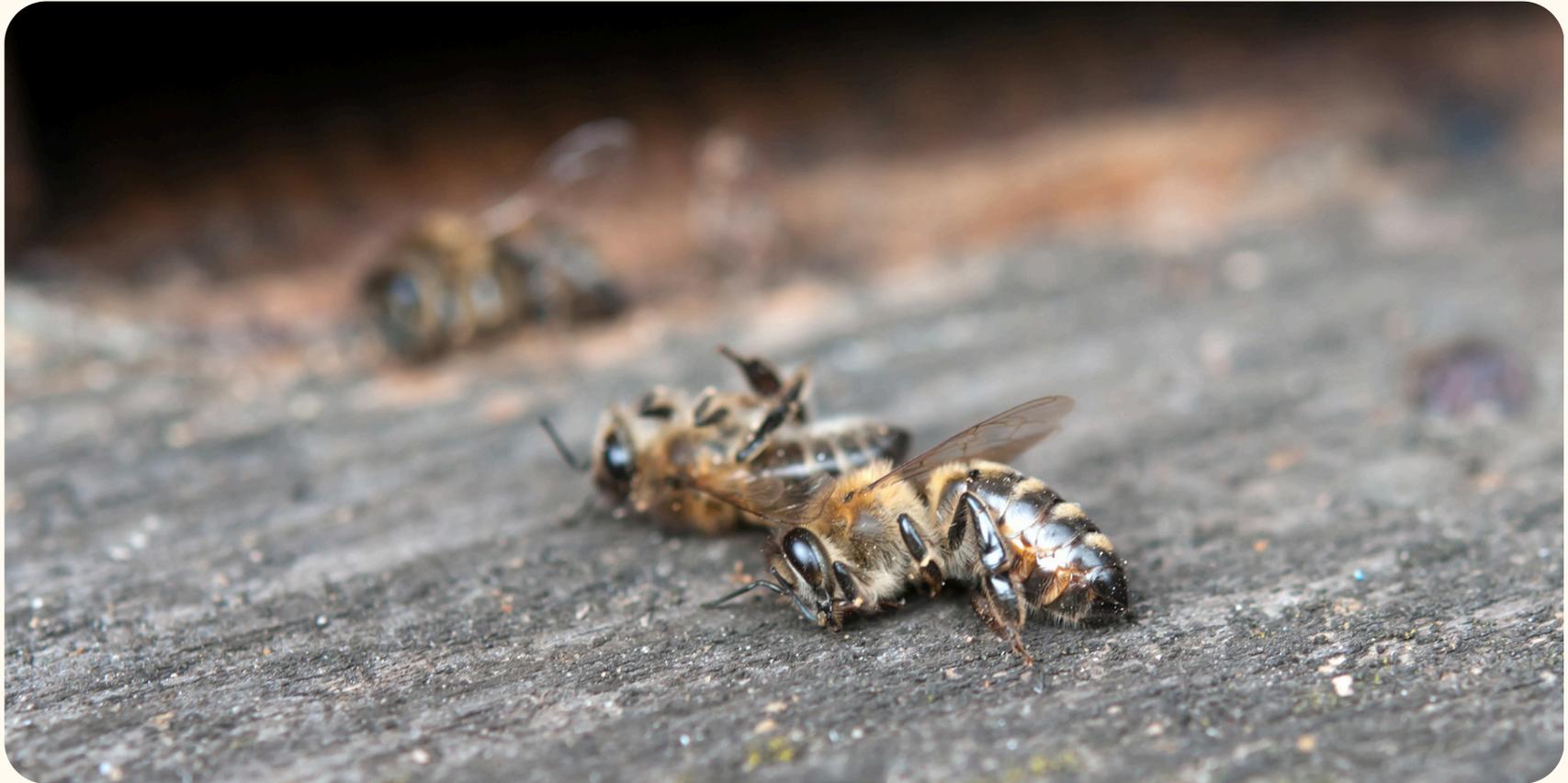
DIRECT CONTACT AND INGESTION

Pollinators are vulnerable to pesticide exposure in several harmful ways, both through touch and through what they consume.

When pollinators brush against plants that have been treated with pesticides, they absorb toxic chemicals through their bodies and wings.

If nectar or pollen is contaminated, pollinators ingest these toxins while feeding. In social species like honeybees, the danger is amplified as these contaminated substances are carried back to the hive.





THE BIOLOGICAL TOLL OF PESTICIDE EXPOSURE

Pesticide exposure can have serious—and often deadly—effects on pollinators, even at low doses.

Pollinators can experience neurological damage, reduced reproduction, weakened immunity, and colony collapse when exposed to pesticides. Even at low doses, these chemicals can disrupt vital functions and behaviors that pollinators need to survive and thrive.





POLLINATORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FOOD WE EAT

Most of the world's flowering plants and many of our food crops rely on pollinators to grow and produce.

The decline of pollinator populations poses a serious threat to both global food security and ecosystem health.



WHY THIS MATTERS?

Even Bigger Impacts!

Pesticides used in agriculture don't just harm bees and butterflies—they also put farmworkers at serious risk. These essential workers are exposed daily to toxic chemicals through drift, direct contact, and contaminated soil or water, leading to long-term consequences for their health.

At the same time, these chemicals are poisoning pollinators, contaminating waterways, and threatening the global food supply we all depend on.

Farmworkers and pollinators are both on the frontlines of exposure, yet often the least protected.

It's time for stronger protections, safer practices, and systemic change.



Ready to Make a Difference?

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

This pollinator week we are encouraging you to plant a pollinator friendly garden, order a spray free zone sign for your yard, and talk with your neighbors about supporting these essential species.

Every little bit helps our pollinators live and thrive!

The more people who care, the bigger the impact!