

Cultivating Community and Environmental Health

*Models for sustainable and organic strategies to
protect ecosystems, pollinators, and waterways*

The 34th National Pesticide Forum

April 15-16, 2016

University of Southern Maine
Portland, Maine

Convened by:



**BEYOND
PESTICIDES**



Co-sponsored by: Eldredge Lumber & Hardware, Environment America, Food and Water Watch Maine, Friends of Casco Bay, GreenCAPE, Maine Farm & Sea Cooperative, Northwest Atlantic Marine Alliance, Organic Consumers Association, Physicians for Social Responsibility Maine, Portland Pollinator Partnership, Portland Protectors, Protect South Portland, and Regeneration International.

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University of Southern Maine ■ Portland, Maine ■ April 15-16, 2016

A Chronological Summary of the Program

Friday, April 17

12:00 - 4:30pm	Organic Garden and Farm Tour
4:30 - 6:30pm	Registration
4:30 - 5:30pm	Pesticides 101
5:30 - 10:30pm	Welcome and Keynote
5:30 - 6:30pm	Reception
6:00 - 6:30pm	Welcome
6:30 - 8:00pm	Performance: A Sense of Wonder, Kaiulani Lee
8:00 - 8:45pm	Keynote: Kristin Ohlson, <i>The Soil Will Save Us</i>
8:45 - 10:30pm	Reception and Book Signing

Saturday, April 18

8:00 - 8:30am	Continental Breakfast and Registration
8:30 - 10:15am	Welcome and Keynotes
8:30 - 8:45am	Welcome
8:45-9:30am	Keynote: Aaron Blair, Ph.D.
9:35-10:10am	Keynote: Jonathan Lundgren, Ph.D.
10:15 - 11:00am	Environmental Health and Law Panel: Nancy Ostiguy, Ph.D., Warren Porter, Ph.D., Tao Orion, Paige Tomaselli, J.D.
11:00 - 11:15am	Break (<i>move to workshops</i>)
11:15am - 12:45pm	Workshop Block I
	Environmental Health and Law: An in-depth discussion ■ Pollinators and Pesticides ■ Protecting Maine Water ■ Organic Pest Management
12:45 - 2:45pm	Lunch and Keynotes
12:45 - 1:20pm	Lunch served
1:20 - 1:55pm	Councilmember George Leventhal
1:55 - 2:00pm	Mayor Ethan Strimling
2:00 - 2:35pm	U.S. Congresswoman Chellie Pingree
2:45 - 3:45pm	Organic Management Approaches and Cutting Edge Alternatives Panel: Chip Osborne, John Bochert, Lani Malmberg
3:45 - 4:00pm	Break (<i>move to workshops</i>)
4:00 - 5:30pm	Workshop Block II
	Organizing for Local Policy Change ■ Biodiversity, Ecology, and Soil Health ■ Ecological Tick Management ■ Organic Standards, Seeds, and Supplies
5:30 - 7:00pm	Dinner
7:00 - 10:30pm	Plenary, Keynote and Reception
7:00 - 7:15pm	Introduction
7:15 - 8:00pm	Keynote: Jim Gerritsen
8:00 - 8:45pm	Keynote: Kate Duesterberg and Will Allen
8:45 - 10:30pm	Discussion/Reception

Cultivating Community and Environmental Health

Models for sustainable and organic strategies to protect ecosystems, pollinators, and waterways

34th National Pesticide Forum

A Call to the Conference

Change is occurring across the country as communities engage in robust discussion and the adoption of land and building management practices and policies that replace toxic pesticides with organic and sustainable methods. As the science continues to support the urgent need for this transition, the practitioners –whether farmers, gardeners, homeowners, or building managers– are proving daily that toxic inputs are not necessary to meet goals for agricultural productivity or expectations for athletic fields, parks, and home lawns.

Effective community advocates for change take a science-based approach, utilizing the current findings in the scientific literature, which link pesticides to disease outcomes and ecological and wildlife effects, to hold decision makers accountable to standards that protect health and well-being. This is both a collaborative and sometimes contentious process, with attention focused on a clear understanding of the pesticide threat, statutory and regulatory deficiencies, and sound and effective solutions. Whether it is a recent study on the cancer causing properties of the weed killer glyphosate, the increasing pesticide dependency in genetically engineered (GE) crops and off-site contamination by GE material, the decline of pollinators tied to neonicotinoid and systemic insecticides, or pesticide contaminated waterways, bringing the information to a community forum is critical to the process of advancing policy that embraces a precautionary approach. Information on the viability of an organic systems approach not dependent on toxic chemicals, from experienced organic practitioners and the business community, helps to paint a complete picture that challenges the need for pesticide-dependent practices.

In agriculture and home and community gardens, organic systems are taking hold in record numbers. In this context, people have adopted soil management techniques that respect nature, nurturing a healthy ecosystem, biodiversity, and the ability to partner with and regenerate soil biology, and, in the process, prevent pest problems. The approach is cross-cutting in ensuring clean air and water, safe food, worker protection, and sequestration of carbon and the slowing of global climate change.

But, the facts alone do not drive change. Local organizations, joining with state and national groups, form the alliances to work with elected officials at all levels of government. In this process, focus is needed to ensure corporate and government accountability to standards and certification specifications that have high integrity and public trust –driving responsible and protective policy and marketplace practices.

It is our goal at this conference to hone our understanding of cutting edge science and practices, contributing to an increasing number of successful campaigns for healthy communities that protect the fragility of life. Thanks for joining us at *Cultivating Community and Environmental Health!*



Jay Feldman
Executive Director, Beyond Pesticides



Routt Reigart, MD
Board President, Beyond Pesticides

Cultivating Community and Environmental Health

The 34th National Pesticide Forum

University of Southern Maine ■ Portland, Maine ■ April 15-16, 2016

Schedule of Events

Friday, April 15

12:00 - 4:30pm

[MEET AT USM FOOD
FOREST, ACROSS FROM
FORUM SITE]

■ **Organic Garden and Farm Tour**

4:30 - 6:30pm

[ABROMSON CENTER LOBBY]

■ **Registration**

4:30 - 5:30pm

[ROOM 109]

■ **Pesticides 101**

Caroline Cox, research director, Center for Environmental Health; board member, Beyond Pesticides, Oakland, CA
Heather Spalding, deputy director, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA), Unity, ME

5:30 - 6:30pm

[LOBBY]

■ **Reception**

6:00 - 6:30pm

[HANNAFORD HALL]

■ **Welcome**

Routt Reigart, M.D., president, Beyond Pesticides board; professor emeritus of pediatrics, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC
Jay Feldman, executive director, Beyond Pesticides, Washington, DC
Heather Spalding, deputy director, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA), Unity, ME
Andy Jones, community organizer, Toxics Action Center, Portland, ME
Robert Sanford, Ph.D., chair, Department of Environmental Science and Policy, University of Southern Maine, Portland, ME

6:30 - 8:00pm

[HANNAFORD HALL]

■ **Performance: A Sense of Wonder**

Kaiulani Lee, writer, producer and actress, Arlington, VA

8:00 - 8:45pm

[HANNAFORD HALL]

■ **Keynote: The Soil Will Save Us**

Kristin Ohlson, journalist and author, *The Soil Will Save Us*, Portland, OR

Jay Feldman, moderator, executive director, Beyond Pesticides, Washington, DC

8:45 - 10:30pm

[ABROMSON CENTER LOBBY]

■ **Reception and Book Signing**

Saturday, April 16

8:00 - 8:30am

[ABROMSON CENTER LOBBY]

Organic Continental Breakfast

8:30 - 8:45am

[HANNAFORD HALL]

■ Welcome

Jay Feldman, executive director, *Beyond Pesticides*, Washington, DC

8:45 - 9:30am

[HANNAFORD HALL]

■ Keynote: Pesticides and Disease: What do we know and what do we need

Aaron Blair, Ph.D., scientist emeritus, National Cancer Institute Division of Cancer Epidemiology & Genetics, Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch; chair, International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) Working Group, World Health Organization, Rockville, MD

Routt Reigart, M.D., moderator, professor emeritus of pediatrics, Medical University of South Carolina; president, *Beyond Pesticides* board, Charleston, SC

9:35 - 10:10am

[HANNAFORD HALL]

■ Keynote: Pollinators, Biodiversity, and Scientific Integrity

Jonathan Lundgren, Ph.D., agroecologist, director Ecdysis Foundation; CEO, Blue Dasher Farm, Brookings, SD

Paula Dinerstein, moderator, senior counsel and attorney, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER); board member, *Beyond Pesticides*, Silver Spring, MD

10:15 - 11:00am

[HANNAFORD HALL]

■ Panel: Environmental Health and Law

Nancy Ostiguy, Ph.D., associate professor of entomology, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA

Warren Porter, Ph.D., professor, Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin-Madison; board member, *Beyond Pesticides*, Madison, WI

Tao Orion, author, *Beyond the War on Invasive Species*; owner, Resilience Permaculture Design, LLC, Cottage Grove, OR

Paige Tomaselli, J.D., senior attorney, Center for Food Safety, San Francisco, CA

Routt Reigart, M.D., moderator, professor emeritus of pediatrics, Medical University of South Carolina; president, *Beyond Pesticides* board, Charleston, SC

11:00 - 11:15am

Short break, please move to workshops

Workshops will be held in rooms 109/110, 213, 214/215, and 216. Please move to workshops quickly as sessions will begin promptly at 11:15 am.

Saturday, April 16 *continued*

11:15am - 12:45pm ■ Workshops I

1) Environmental Health and Law: An in-depth discussion

[ROOM 109/110]

Aaron Blair, Ph.D., *scientist emeritus, National Cancer Institute Division of Cancer Epidemiology & Genetics, Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch; chair, International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) Working Group, World Health Organization, Rockville, MD*

Warren Porter, Ph.D., *professor, Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin-Madison; board member, Beyond Pesticides, Madison, WI*

Paige Tomaselli, J.D., *senior attorney, Center for Food Safety, San Francisco, CA*

Nathan Donley, Ph.D., *respondent, scientist, Center for Biological Diversity, Portland, OR*

Kristin Schafer, *respondent, program and policy director, Pesticide Action Network North America, Oakland, CA*

Routt Reigart, M.D., *moderator, professor emeritus of pediatrics, Medical University of South Carolina; president, Beyond Pesticides board, Charleston, SC*

■ Continuing from the environmental health law panel, and in-depth discussion on the latest science on pesticides and their impact on public health. Connect with scientists and experts for an in-depth discussion on their latest research.

2) Pollinators and Pesticides

[ROOM 214/215]

Nancy Ostiguy, Ph.D., *associate professor of entomology, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA*

Jonathan Lundgren, Ph.D., *agroecologist, director Ecdysis Foundation; CEO, Blue Dasher Farm, Brookings, SD*

Erin MacGregor-Forbes, *master beekeeper, Overland Apiaries; member, Maine State Beekeepers Association; chairman, Eastern Apicultural Society, Jefferson, ME*

Margie Alt, *respondent, executive director, Environment America, Boston, ME*

David Wheeler, *respondent, volunteer, Bee Safe Boulder, Boulder, CO*

Donna Herczeg, *moderator, citizen scientist, University of Maine, Maine Bumble Bee Atlas and Maine Butterfly Survey; member, Portland Pollinator Partnership; member, Portland Protectors; Portland, ME*

■ The struggle to address the pollinator crisis continues to face obstacles, even in face of a growing number of scientific studies that link bee declines to pesticide use, especially neonicotinoid and other systemic insecticides. Participate in an in-depth discussions with beekeepers, scientists and national policy experts on the challenges and what can be done.

Saturday, April 16 *continued*

11:15am - 12:45pm ■ Workshops I

3) Protecting Maine Water

[ROOM 213]

Mary Ann Nahf, *chair, Harpswell Conservation Commission, Harpswell, ME*

Jeff Barnum, *Great Bay-Piscataqua waterkeeper, Conservation Law Foundation, Concord, NH*

Niaz Dorry, *coordinating director, Northwest Atlantic Marine Alliance, Gloucester, MA*

Craig Downs, Ph.D., *respondent, executive director, Haereticus Environmental Laboratory; chairman, Global Coral Repository, Clifford, VA*

Mary Cerullo, *moderator, associate director, Friends of Casco Bay, South Portland, ME*

■ **Water quality issues are critically tied to environmental and human health in Maine, throughout New England, and across the country. Learn about the impacts of pesticides and chemically-intensive agriculture on water quality, and how this affects humans, from the water we drink and the fish we eat, and what we can do to help keep our water clean.**

4) Managing Pests without Pesticides: How-to

[ROOM 216]

Chip Osborne, *president, Osborne Organics; board member, Beyond Pesticides, Marblehead, MA*

Lani Malmberg, *owner, Ewe4ic Ecological Services; board member, Beyond Pesticides, Cheyenne, WY*

John Bochert, *garden and plant specialist, Eldredge Lumber & Hardware, York, ME*

Matt Wallach, *IPM in Health Care Facilities project director, Beyond Pesticides/ Maryland Pesticide Education Network, Baltimore, MD*

Rella Abernathy, Ph.D., *moderator, integrated pest management coordinator, City of Boulder, Colorado; board member, Beyond Pesticide, Boulder, CO*

■ **With a “how-to” focus, this workshop provides participants with practical advice on adopting organic practices at home and in local park and playing field management.**

Saturday, April 16 *continued*

12:45 - 2:45pm

[HANNAFORD HALL]

■ **Lunch and Keynotes**

Lunch will be served at 12:45pm. Please pick up your lunch before the plenary speakers begin at 1:20pm.

■ **Keynote: Landmark Law: The case for local action**

Councilmember George Leventhal, *Montgomery County Council, At-Large, Rockville, MD*

Ling Tan moderator, *co-founder, Safe Grow Montgomery County, Boyds, MD*

■ **Welcome to Portland**

Mayor Ethan Strimling, *City of Portland, ME*

■ **Keynote: Organic Practice and Policy: A view from Congress**

U.S. Representative Chellie Pingree, *Maine's 1st Congressional District, Portland, ME*

Ted Quaday moderator, *executive director, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA), Unity, ME*

2:45 - 3:45pm

[HANNAFORD HALL]

■ **Organic Management Approaches and Cutting Edge Alternatives Panel**

Chip Osborne, *president, Osborne Organics, board member, Beyond Pesticides, Marblehead, MA*

John Bochert, *garden and plant specialist, Eldredge Lumber & Hardware, York, ME*

Lani Malmberg, *owner, Eew4ic Ecological Services, board member, Beyond Pesticides, Cheyenne, WY*

Rella Abernathy, Ph.D. moderator, *integrated pest management coordinator, City of Boulder, Colorado; board member, Beyond Pesticide, Boulder, CO*

3:45- 4:00pm

■ **Short break, please move to workshops**

Workshops will be held in rooms 109/110, 213, 214/215, and 216. Please move to workshops quickly as sessions will begin promptly at 11:15 am.

Saturday, April 16 continued

4:00 - 5:30pm ■ Workshops II

1) Organizing for Local Policy Change

[109/110]

Councilmember Jon Hinck, *Portland City Council, At-Large, Portland, ME*

Fred Dillon, *stormwater program coordinator, City of South Portland, ME*

Mike Horn, *former chair, Ogunquit Conservation Commission, Ogunquit, ME*

Ling Tan, *co-founder, Safe Grow Montgomery County, Boyds, MD*

Avery Yale Kamila, *respondent, co-founder, Portland Protectors, Portland, ME*

Rachel Burger, *respondent, founder and president, Protect South Portland, South Portland, ME*

Andy Jones, *moderator, community organizer, Maine and New Hampshire, Toxics Action Center, Portland, ME*

■ **Inadequate regulation at the federal level requires localities to take action for public health and the environment. Discuss the strategies needed to pass and implement effective pesticide policies to protect your community.**

2) Biodiversity, Ecology and Soil Health

[ROOM 216]

Tao Orion, *author, Beyond the War on Invasive Species; owner, Resilience Permaculture Design, LLC, Cottage Grove, OR*

Lori Ann Burd, J.D., *environmental health director, Center for Biological Diversity, Portland, OR*

Kristin Ohlson, *journalist and author, The Soil Will Save Us, Portland, OR*

Lani Malmberg, *owner, Ewe4ic Ecological Services; board member, Beyond Pesticides, Cheyenne, WY*

Terry Shistar, Ph.D., *moderator, board member, Beyond Pesticides, Lawrence, KS*

■ **In land-based ecosystems, biodiversity begins with the soil. Discuss regenerative land management practices.**

3) Organic Standards, Seeds and Supplies

[ROOM 214/215]

Jim Gerritsen, *owner, Wood Prairie Farm; president, Organic Seed Growers and Trade Association, Bridgewater, ME*

Heather Spalding, *deputy director, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA), Unity, ME*

Paige Tomaselli, J.D., *senior attorney, Center for Food Safety, San Francisco, CA*

John Bochart, *garden and plant specialist, Eldredge Lumber & Hardware, York, ME*

Chip Osborne, *respondent, president, Osborne Organics, board member, Beyond Pesticides, Marblehead, MA*

Jay Feldman, *moderator, executive director, Beyond Pesticides, Washington, DC*

■ **Exploring the successes and challenges of the future of organic agriculture, including the shifting marketplace. Learn from Maine organic farmers as well as national leaders to discuss strategy and legal approaches to strengthen organic agriculture.**

4) Ecological Tick Management

[ROOM 213]

Ron Circe, *manager, Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve, Leesburg, VA*

Daniel Sonenshine, Ph.D. *professor emeritus, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA*

Routt Reigart, M.D., *moderator, president, Beyond Pesticides board; professor emeritus of pediatrics, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC*

■ **Explore strategies for tick management that are not dependent on conventional pesticides, with a focus on combining scientific knowledge of tick ecology with policy and action.**

Saturday, April 16 *continued*

5:30 - 7:00pm

[ABROMSON CENTER LOBBY]

Dinner

7:00 - 8:45pm

[HANNAFORD HALL]

■ **Keynote: Organic Integrity: Soil, seeds, and government and corporate responsibility**

Jim Gerritsen, owner, Wood Prairie Farm; president, Organic Seed Growers and Trade Association, Bridgewater, ME

Jay Feldman, moderator, executive director, Beyond Pesticides, Washington, DC

■ **Keynote: Regenerative Agriculture, Farming as if the Earth Matters**

Will Allen and Kate Duesterberg, farm managers, Cedar Circle Farm, East Thetford, VT

Jay Feldman, moderator, executive director, Beyond Pesticides, Washington, DC

8:45 - 10:30pm

[ABROMSON CENTER LOBBY]

Discussion/Reception

Thank You!

Beyond Pesticides, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA), Toxics Action Center, and the University of Southern Maine Department of Environmental Science and Policy, would like to thank the organizations that helped make this event possible:

Eldredge Lumber & Hardware, Environment America, Food and Water Watch Maine, Friends of Casco Bay, GreenCAPE, Northwest Atlantic Marine Alliance, Organic Consumers Association, Maine Farm & Sea Cooperative, Physicians for Social Responsibility Maine, Portland Pollinator Partnership, Portland Protectors, Protect South Portland, and Regeneration International

Also, a very special thank you to:

Major Supporters: Dr. Bronner's, Frey Vineyards, Organic Valley, and Tabard Inn
Supporters: National Cooperative Grocers (NCG), Eden Foods, Eldredge Lumber & Hardware, Organic Consumers Association, Maine Farm & Sea Cooperative, Portland Pollinator Partnership, and Portland Protectors

BEYOND PESTICIDES, founded in 1981 as the National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides, works with allies for a future free of hazardous pesticides and collaborates with grassroots people and organizations to educate the public on pesticide hazards and promote non-toxic alternatives. The founders felt that without the existence of such an organized, national network, local, state and national pesticide policy would become, under chemical industry pressure, increasingly unresponsive to public health and environmental concerns.



Beyond Pesticides Board of Directors

Routt Reigart, M.D. (President), Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC; *Lani Malmberg* (Vice-President), Ewe4ic Ecological Services, Inc., Cheyenne, WY; *Terry Shistar, Ph.D.* (Secretary), Lawrence, KS; *Caroline Cox* (Treasurer), Center for Environmental Health, Oakland, CA; *Chip Osborne* (At-Large), Osborne Organics, Marblehead, MA; *Rella Abernathy, Ph.D.*, City of Boulder Integrative Pest Management Program, Boulder, CO; *Colehour Bondera*, Kanalani Ohana Farm, Honaunau, HI; *Nelson Carrasquillo*, Farmworkers Support Committee (CATA), Philadelphia, PA; *Paula Dinerstein*, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, Washington, DC; *Lorna Donaldson*, Donaldson Family Farms, Tiptonville, TN; *Jay Feldman*, Beyond Pesticides, Washington, DC; *Melinda Hemmelgarn, R.D.*, Food Sleuth, LLC, Columbia, MO; *Warren Porter, Ph.D.*, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI; *Brett Ramey*, Seattle, WA; *Robina Suwol*, California Safe Schools, Toluca Lake, CA.

Beyond Pesticides Staff

Jay Feldman, executive director; *Stephanie Davio*, forum coordinator; *Nichelle Harriott*, science and regulatory director; *Drew Toher*, public education associate; *Nikita Naik*, program associate; *Annie D'Amato, J.D.*, legal and policy associate; *Amila Weerasingha*, administrative and public education assistant; *Jen Ruocco*, executive assistant; *Matt Wallach*, IPM project director; *Aubrey Stevenson*, fellow.