

Post spray event

Avoid the spray area.

Tell your neighbours about the spray event.

Give them this brochure and encourage them to ask 10 questions.

Write to your local council, attend council meetings, ask these questions in a council meeting.

Contact your local MP and tell them we need an overarching protocol for spraying chemicals on roadsides, in public places, neighbourhood streets and gardens.

Adverse experience

People and pets can have an adverse reaction to spray events. Adverse reactions can include, breathing difficulty, tight chest, racing heart, skin reactions, dizziness etc. If you or your pet have these symptoms, immediately seek medical attention.

The APVMA manages the Adverse Experience Reporting Program and once the symptoms have been treated, report the incident to the APVMA.



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10 questions you can ask
when you see a spray event
in your neighbourhood

A Pollinator First project

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2. Roundup attacks gut bacteria in people and pets, lawsuit alleges. (2019) Retrieved from <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-02-13/roundup-attacks-gut-bacteria-in-people-and-pets-lawsuit-alleges>
3. Food and Water watch (October 2018) Issues brief: From Superweeds to Cancer
4. ibid
5. Dr Mills, P; Dr Caussy, C; Loomba, R MD. University of California. Retrieved from <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30954713>
6. Document – Weed Management – Major Crops Incidence of Herbicide Resistance in Rigid Rye grass across southeastern Australia. (2012) Retrieved from <http://plantscienceconsulting.com.au/wp-content/uploads/mp/files/articles/files/incidence-of-herbicide-resistance-in-rigid-ryegrass-lolium-rigidum-across-southeastern-australia.0a3fbf4812959ab9bdc5d2bdc9ed9286.pdf>
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Chemical spraying in our neighbourhood is everyone's concern.

In Australia many local councils and state governments spray herbicides and pesticides in public spaces and along roadside verges to control weeds and insects.

Chemicals are approved and regulated for spraying by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA).

Jurisdictions have different risk management strategies in place, however there is currently no overarching protocol for spraying chemicals on roadsides, in public places, neighbourhood streets or gardens.

Some councils have a no spray register – when registered the boundaries of your property become a no spray zone.



The truth is fences and boundaries are a human concept.

Spraying chemicals impacts pollinators – bees visiting sprayed flowers bring contaminated pollen and nectar back to the hive. Exposure to these chemicals also puts pollinators at risk of death.

Research over the last few years has shown how these industrial grade chemicals are impacting people. Glyphosate, sold on supermarket and hardware shelves as 'RoundUp':

- Perturbs the gut microbiota of honey bees. (1)
- Harms gut bacteria in humans. (2)
- Acts as an endocrine disruptor, interfering with the body's hormones. (3)
- Contributes to antibiotic resistant bacteria. (4)
- Correlates to more severe cases of non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (5)
- Causes herbicide resistance due to overuse (6)
- Is linked to Non-Hodgkin lymphoma, also known as 'farmers cancer' (7)

10 questions you can ask

- What chemical are you spraying?
- What are you targeting with this spray?
- Have residents been notified about the spray event?
- What is the withholding period for this chemical? (this is the time between spraying and animal/human contact as defined by the [APVMA](#))
- How is the council containing the site during this withholding period?
- Does the council have a spray schedule?
- How is this schedule communicated to the community?
- Do you have a copy of the Safety Data Sheet for this chemical and how can I access it?
- Does the Council retain a register of people raising concerns on this issue?
- Is the council considering alternative solutions to chemical spray?