



2014 HIGHLIGHTS

92% of Licensed Childcares compliant with Illinois IPM laws up from 56% at the beginning of 2014

5 new communities working toward natural lawn care on their public outdoor spaces

19 new Midwest Grows Green retailer partners recruited in Illinois' coastal zone

3,000 Midwest Grows Green brochures distributed

37 workshops held by Midwest Pesticide Action Center*

1,434 people who heard us speak

209,436 estimated number of households impacted

100% Completion of MPAC's activities funded by the U.S. EPA's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, resulting in:

20,032 estimated number of managed acres impacted

24,266 lbs estimated reduction in pesticides applied

152,889 lbs estimated reduction in phosphate applied

300 Chicago Park District field houses displaying MPAC's *A Natural Park is a Healthy Park* updated poster

*numbers from training events from November 1, 2013 to October 31, 2014

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE WORK WITH CHILDCARES A GREAT SUCCESS

Midwest Pesticide Action Center's *Pesticide-Free Childcares: Environmental Justice for Children* project has seen great success in 2014. Funded by the U.S. EPA and our spring crowdfunder, the goal was to increase the number of licensed childcare facilities that are complying with the Illinois Structural Pest Control Law, which has been on the books since 2004.



Midwest Pesticide Action Center has worked with the Illinois Department of Public Health and University of Illinois Extension Services to educate childcare providers on the requirements of the law and move them toward compliance. Now, at the end of 2014, 92% of licensed childcares are compliant, up from 56% at the beginning of the year. As a companion to these efforts, Midwest Pesticide Action Center worked with the Illinois Child Care Reference and Referral Agency (INCCRRA) to develop an online training tool for childcare staff to learn about integrated pest management (IPM) and receive continuing education credits upon completion. Scheduled to be available online by the time you receive this Update, we will follow the use of the training closely and report back on its success.

This project will provide a baseline of data to work from and an easily accessible education tool, making it possible for Midwest Pesticide Action Center and partners to work towards full implementation of IPM in childcares and improving the environmental conditions for all children being cared for in licensed facilities.

\$5,000 TO GO! HELP IMPACT 20,000 ACRES

Please visit our recently launched crowdfunder at <http://bit.ly/1oWyhjs> to learn about our new initiative to impact 20,000 acres of land, which will mark our 20 years of protecting people and the environment. This project aims to reduce pesticide use in public spaces - in parks, school yards, and village greens - making them healthier for children, residents, and pets to enjoy. This initiative is being partially funded by Clif Bar Family Foundation, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Wallace Genetic Foundation, The Lohengrin Foundation, and Cornell Douglas Foundation. We need your help closing the gap, and raising the last \$5,000 to make this initiative possible. Please donate by visiting our crowdfunder page or www.midwestpesticideaction.org/donate.

LEGISLATIVE WATCH: NEWS & UPDATES

Enlist Duo - Despite massive opposition, the U.S. EPA has approved Dow Chemical Co's Enlist Duo for use on GMO crops. Enlist Duo is a toxic combination of herbicide 2,4-D and glyphosate that has been linked to Parkinson's Disease and other serious health conditions. There is still time to take action— Midwest Pesticide Action Center will continue to work with like-minded orgs to stop this latest escalation.

Illinois Pesticide Act - SB 3565, an addendum to the Illinois Pesticide Act, would allow any community within Cook County with over 50,000 residents to regulate their own pesticide usage. It has been moved to the Senate Agriculture and Conservation Committee. While progress on passing Senator Harmon's bill is still possible, we do not anticipate an easy or quick campaign forward. Read the bill and follow updates on its progress: <http://bit.ly/1yDhq51>



Earlier this year, the French parliament passed a bill banning the use of pesticides in all parks and public spaces by the year 2020 and drastically limiting the use of pesticides in homes and gardens. Read more: <http://bit.ly/1wz5hMf>. Stateside, a law passed in Connecticut last year banning two chemicals, methoprene and resmethrin, has impacted the local lobster population, increasing their numbers dramatically in the last year. Read more: <http://bit.ly/1xou2A4>

MIDWEST PESTICIDE ACTION CENTER PRESENTS GARDEN GALA

On October 9th, 2014, Midwest Pesticide Action Center celebrated our 20th anniversary with nearly 150 friends and supporters at the legendary Garfield Park Conservatory. The event raised \$18,000 to support our continued work of protecting people and the environment from harmful pesticides.



Guests enjoyed the gorgeous greenhouse at the Conservatory, bites from sustainably minded Chicago eateries, craft beer, organic wine, farm-to-glass seasonal cocktails, and a fantastic auction. The Golden Horse Ranch Band played country and bluegrass tunes, taught guests how to do-si-do and promenade their way down Horticulture Hall, and the award-winning DJ Tess closed out the night spinning old school jams. It was a truly memorable celebration thanks to our generous supporters and sponsors: The Amazing Kale Burger, Chop Shop, Greenwise Organic Lawn Care, Field & Florist, Frey Vineyards, Letherbee, Limelight Catering, Midwest Groundcovers LLC, No Small Plans Productions, Owen & Alchemy, Revolution Brewing, Pint, Sunda, and The Spirited Gardener.

Amy Bartucci, founder of Go Green Park Ridge, has partnered with Midwest Pesticide Action Center to move their park district to natural lawn care. Go to our website to read an inspirational interview with a real live activist: <http://bit.ly/1ve17xT>

OUR OUTDOOR PROGRAM EXPANDS

Great progress has been made over the last few months to advance our outdoors programs. We are currently working with five communities to move their park districts to more sustainable lawn care and landscaping practices through our *A Healthy Park is a Natural Park* campaign. Our *Chicago Grows Green* campaign designed to move retailers to stock more products and educational materials promoting sustainable turf care, has been rebranded to *Midwest Grows Green* and expanded beyond the Chicago borders. We currently have 30 retailers participating, many in the Illinois Coastal Zone where runoff impacts Lake Michigan. And, we worked with Oak Park and River Forest through a Manaaki Foundation grant to develop a campaign for better communication on mosquito spraying which can be packaged as a model template for coordinated activities in other communities. A lot of hard work has gone into developing these campaigns and we are hoping to be able to expand them in 2015, with continued support from our donors.

