



It's simple: No bees, no food.

DONATE NOW

We're losing bees in droves -- even on farms that provide shelter for bees. According to a recent article in *The Independent*, even bee sanctuaries are seeing massive bee die-offs.¹

What's more, new research shows that certain pesticides are more deadly to bees than originally thought. A new study has found that low-nutrient diets increase the likelihood of bees dying from these bee-killing pesticides by up to 50 percent.² Intensive agriculture is decreasing the quality of nutrients in the nectar and pollen that bees eat, leading to more bee deaths.³

More than \$15 billion a year in food crops in the United States are pollinated by bees.⁴ **Losing them means we could lose many of the foods that we currently enjoy:** everything from strawberries to broccoli to the alfalfa used to feed dairy cows.

Given what's at stake, we must do more to stop the bee die-offs and help them rebound. **That's why we're calling on local and state leaders to ban the sale of the worst bee-killing chemicals, and our national network is doing the same across the country.**

[Will you chip in to help us save the bees and support our other work today?](#)

Colonies are collapsing. Bees could be heading toward extinction. And that has real consequences for our food supply and our environment.

Scientists point to pesticides as one of the main factors -- particularly, insecticides known as neonicotinoids (or neonics), which are 5,000 to 10,000 times more toxic to bees than DDT.^{5,6} And we're spraying 46 million pounds of these bee-killing pesticides on our homes, gardens and public spaces every year.⁷

For the past several years, OSPIRG, our national network and other groups have asked the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to ban these pesticides nationwide, and they have failed to do so. **We're not waiting on the EPA any longer. Now, to protect bees and our food supply, we're calling on states to act.**

[We're working to save bees and our food supply by calling on states to ban the use of bee-killing pesticides across the country. Help us get there by making a donation today.](#)

If enough states take action, it will send a strong signal to large chemical companies and the federal government that the public won't stand for the use of bee-killing pesticides or any chemical that threatens our health, directly or indirectly.

Maryland is leading the way, passing a bill last year that would ban the use of bee-killing pesticides. We're working to push more states to follow Maryland's example.

If we succeed, we can eliminate the use of more than 40 percent of insecticides used in this country. That's a lot of bees that we can save -- bees that will pollinate our food.

We need to be doing all we can to allow bees and other pollinators to thrive and in turn pollinate the crops we depend on. **Are you with us?**

[We need your help to save bees and our food supply. Support our work today.](#)

Thanks,

Charlie Fisher
State Director

1. Clark Mindock, "[Save The Bees: Inside A Bee Sanctuary's Fight To Save Colonies -- And The World's Food Supply -- From Collapse](#)," The Independent, December 29, 2017.
2. Simone Tosi, James C. Nieh, Fabio Sgolastra, Riccardo Cabbri, Piotr Medrzycki, "[Neonicotinoid Pesticides And Nutritional Stress Synergistically Reduce Survival In Honey Bees](#)," Proceedings Of The Royal Society B: Biological Sciences, December 2017.
3. Josh Gabbatiss, "[Pesticides Even More Harmful To Bees Than Previously Thought, According To New Study](#)," The Independent, December 20, 2017.
4. Josh Gabbatiss, "[Pesticides Even More Harmful To Bees Than Previously Thought, According To New Study](#)," The Independent, December 20, 2017.
5. Clark Mindock, "[Save The Bees: Inside A Bee Sanctuary's Fight To Save Colonies -- And The World's Food Supply -- From Collapse](#)," The Independent, December 29, 2017.
6. Hopwood et. al., "[How Neonics Can Kill Bees](#)," Xerces Society, 2016.
7. "[Harm](#)," The Task Force On Systemic Pesticides, accessed December 3, 2018.