Asian Carp Action IS Urgent!

A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers report released in January lays out, for the first time, the federal government’s options for keeping Asian carp and other invasive species out of the Great Lakes. With the release of the Great Lakes-Mississippi River Interbasin Study, we have a tremendous opportunity for our region to jump-start progress in 2014 on this critical issue. We need your support to overcome the gridlock that could stall progress now that the study phase is over.

Your voice is critical in the coming weeks. The Corps held public meetings around the basin throughout January to hear comments about the report. We know that restoring the natural divide between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins is a realistic vision. They need to hear from you that further delay of a permanent solution so desperately needed to protect the Great Lakes is not acceptable.

A major part of the report lays some of the groundwork for building a physical barrier that restores the natural Great Lakes-Mississippi River basin divide. With Asian carp edging ever closer to Lake Michigan via Chicago waterways, the Corps needs to hear that further delays of a permanent solution are not acceptable. The scheduled public meetings will probably be concluded by the time you receive this newsletter, BUT comments can be submitted until March 3rd from the public.

Recent studies confirm that the electric barrier—currently the last line of defense to keep the Asian carp out of the Great Lakes—may not be a barrier at all. Fish can breach the electrical field as ships pass through it, with small fish able to swim through in schools. The status quo is not acceptable and quick action is needed to improve protection of the lakes.

At least one independent engineering study shows that separation can not only protect the Great Lakes from invasion, but help address existing water quality and transportation problems.

We must prevent an ecological catastrophe that would inflict irreparable damage to the entire Great Lakes region—the establishment of Asian carp and other invasive species. The creation of a permanent physical barrier would solve this problem with benefits for Chicago to upgrade its antiquated wastewater system is forecast to cost about $18 billion dollars, about the same amount as the foreign aid we give to Egypt each year.

Please, please, submit your written or electronic comments before March 3rd to:

Mail to:
US Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District
231 S. LaSalle St. Suite 1500
ATTN: GLMRIS Comments, Dave Wethington
Chicago, IL 60604

(The corps is accepting comments on the report at public meetings and via electronic submittal form on their GLMRIS website or via mail. Comments accepted through March 3rd).

D.C.E.C. Schedules the First Seasonal Seminar

We are kicking off the seminars at Crossroads At Big Creek with an outstanding video presentation by Sandra Steingraber, noted author, biologist, and researcher on the detrimental effects of living in an area where fracking for gas and oil is commonplace. She is the recipient of the Rachel Carson Leadership Award, has lectured before the parliament of the European Union, and at various medical colleges and institutions. Her book, “Raising Elijah: Protecting Our Children in an Age of Environmental Crisis” was followed by her book and video, “Living Downstream”.

Mark your calendar, as Wednesday March 12th, 2014 is the kickoff for the series at Crossroads At Big Creek with the showing of “Living Downstream” at 7:00 p.m. These seminars are free for the public. Watch for future announced presentations.
Are All The Resources In The United States For Sale?

BATON ROUGE, La. — The smell of freshly cut wood wafting from a dirt lot along an industrial stretch of road near the state capital might not conjure up an image of green energy, but some say this is the future of sustainability. The smell comes from two white plastic domes rising high along the Mississippi River. Stored inside those domes are millions of wood pellets, which started as trees in the surrounding 50- to 75-mile area, and were converted to easily shippable and burnable material at mammoth factories where harvested wood can stretch as far as the eye can see. After being packed into containers the wood is shipped to Europe, where power companies will burn it in an effort to meet the European Union’s stringent renewable energy requirements. This is known as biomass energy. The problem is, not everyone thinks burning wood is green. Environmentalists in Louisiana are crying foul over European corporations using Louisiana’s forests for their profit, and perhaps polluting the planet in the process.

Last month, as the white domes were being constructed, Western Louisiana–based environmental activist, Dean Wilson sounded the alarm, telling his fellow environmentalists the state’s forests could be under threat. As more and more power plants in Europe convert to biomass, more and more forests in the United States could disappear. Dean Wilson and his wife, Cara Leverett, live in a small shack with their young son and two dogs in the middle of the largest swampland in the U.S. It’s called the Atchafalaya Basin. The basin’s thousands of acres of cypress, bottomland hardwood trees and coastal marshes are a refuge for wildlife. They also act as a sponge when hurricanes cause the Mississippi River and Gulf of Mexico to surge.

Despite the Atchafalaya Basin’s size, Wilson and Leverett are the only employees of Atchafalaya Basinkeeper, which is the only nonprofit dedicated to overseeing the basin’s hundreds of miles — extending from the southwestern tip of Louisiana at the Gulf of Mexico to north of the state capital.

The fact that few others are watching over the Atchafalaya has made Leverett and Wilson the default warning system for any perceived threats to the woods. In 2008, Wilson was able to trace bags of cypress mulch being sold at Walmart, Home Depot and other retailers — labeled as sustainably harvested — back to clear-cut Atchafalaya woodlands. He and his fellow Louisiana activists pressured the companies to stop selling the mulch. It was a big victory, but now he worries that the demand for biomass in Europe will reverse his work to protect the woods.

In 2007, the European Union set an ambitious goal to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases to 20 percent below their 1990 levels by 2020. That, in effect, required power plants across the continent to quickly find new ways to make energy. Some turned to wind and solar. But for coal-fired power plants it was much cheaper to convert their facilities to burn wood. The conundrum for those companies is that much of western Europe doesn’t have sufficiently large forests left to meet the demand, and the remaining woodland is heavily regulated. So corporations turned to the Southeastern U.S., where wood is plentiful, and regulations about what can be done on private land are lax. Wood pellet manufacturing in the U.S. is now booming, all over! Biomass advocates say the technology is good for the environment because it’s carbon-neutral — trees are cut down, and they grow back. They point out that European companies must show they’re harvesting woods in line with the EU’s sustainability standards.

Many environmentalists and scientists who’ve studied the issue believe that current industry practices virtually guarantee a loss of carbon in the process, and that diverse ecosystems are often the collateral damage. Add to that the oil burned to get wood pellets from the Mississippi River to Europe, and biomass begins to look less and less attractive to environmentalists.

(Condensed from Al Jezeera – America 1/18/2014) (JMV)

It’s a New Year...and...It’s Time For Your Town Water Test Program

The D.C.E.C. supported town water-testing program has space available for another town to join with Jacksonport in the summer 2014 individual homeowner water-testing program. This is a voluntary homeowner well water-testing program that has been completed in five of the towns in the county to determine if any water quality problems are present. D.C.E.C. provides $500 for each town to be used in promoting the voluntary testing as an incentive to move forward with the testing. The complete full testing analysis costs around $100 for homeowner which includes the basic contaminants and is done at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point facility. There should be no cost to the town, the results are completely confidential, and no one will force you to make changes to your water supply.

Talk to your town officials about getting involved in this countywide testing program. It’s a good deal that should be utilized. Call the D.C.E.C. office for more details about the testing program, at: 920-743-6003, or talk to someone from: Liberty Grove, Gibraltar, Egg Harbor village and town, or Bailey’s Harbor to find out details from their town program.

(JMV)
Fortunately, the battle to save native crop seeds and plants from complete ownership and control by the mega-rich chemical companies seems to finally becoming a factor that everyone is becoming concerned about. Ninety (90) percent of the people of the United States and an even higher percentage of world citizens are alarmed at by the complete disregard for the laws of nature shown by these power-hungry corporations; Monsanto, Dow, Syngenta, Pioneer Hi-Bred, Agrigenetics and several other rogue chemical producing entities that want total control over food crop and genetic manipulation.

You have seen the news reports of the tremendous amount of money these corporations and related supporters have spent in their effort to defeat pending legislation that would control the damage these profit purveyors are planning. Several states have had successful referendums to curb the dominance these corporations desire, only to have the new regulations challenged for legality and constitutionality. You have also seen the reports of native people in foreign lands destroying the engineered seeds that were imposed upon them “to make their lives much easier and profitable” while in effect, destroying the traditional way of living sustainably.

In EU: Currently 15 nations in the European Union require labels on GMO products, and Zambia, Benin and Serbia have all instituted prohibitions against products. Just earlier this week, China for the fifth time blocked a cargo shipment of US corn from entering the country, citing concerns of GMO contamination.

In UK: Though GM wheat and potatoes have been trialed in the United Kingdom in recent years, this year will mark the first year that no GMO trials will occur. The director of GM Freeze, Helene Paul says, “We’re celebrating a GM-free year in UK fields – long may it continue. We congratulate the millions of UK farmers and shoppers standing up for what is right for their businesses and families, and we’re standing right beside them.” This will be the first year since 2007 that no trials will be conducted and that none are expected.

In US: Maine Gov. Paul LePage has signed a bill that would require food producers to label foods that contain genetically modified ingredients. The law makes Maine the second state in the country to pass such a measure. We congratulate the millions of UK farmers and shoppers standing up for what is right for their businesses and families, and we’re standing right beside them.” This will be the first year since 2007 that no trials will be conducted and that none are expected.

What’s being done to combat the GMO takeover?

Syngenta, Pioneer Hi-Bred and Agrigenetics - an affiliate of Dow - have sued to block Kauai County, Hawaii from implementing its new genetically modified organism and pesticide regulation law. On January 10th, three of the world’s largest agrochemical companies filed a lawsuit against the County of Kauai to block implementation of the recently passed Kauai Ordinance 960. Syngenta, DuPont Pioneer Hi-Bred, and a Dow Chemical subsidiary filed the lawsuit in federal district court on Oahu. The chemical companies currently use pesticides that are banned in many other countries, in the open air, next to schools and homes. Documents revealed in another lawsuit show that these experimental operations spray restricted-use pesticides two hundred and fifty to three hundred days a year, ten to sixteen times per day.

Recently in an unpublished copy of Monsanto and the Grocery Manufacturers Association's (GMA) plan, they tried to sneak in a toothless piece of legislation. It gave the illusion of serious regulation, usurping states’ rights to pass similar bills and call for “voluntary” labeling of GMOs based on fraudulent criteria. The 5-page document contains 3 pages of Monsanto and GMA talking points that outline their secret plan to undermine states’ rights, subverting both democracy and the will of the people, 90% of whom support GMO labeling.

This plan is so devious that it radically speeds up the approval process for new GMO crops, it limits the FDA and USDA’s ability to extend pre-market safety reviews, it declares GMO foods “safe” and redefines genetically engineered foods as “bioengineered” in order to sanitize this deeply flawed technology to the American public. Make no mistake about it, this is an outrageous power grab to deny Americans their basic right to GMO labeling and protect flawed GMO products - and we can’t allow them to get away with it.

This proposal is much more dangerous to our basic rights to know what’s in our food than the Monsanto Protection Act and will enshrine the false idea that GMOs are proven safe in federal legislation.

What’s being done to combat the GMO takeover?
The governor of Connecticut hosted a ceremonial signing outside an organic restaurant in the city of Fairfield last week, to commemorate the state’s passing of what could be the first GMO labeling law of its type in the United States. Voters in Connecticut decided back in June to approve a bill requiring that all foods meant for human consumption that contain genetically-modified ingredients be properly labeled. Unless some neighboring states in the region follow suit, however, the status of that law remains in limbo.

The Connecticut bill requires at least four other Northeastern states with a combined population of no fewer than 20 million to approve similar acts before it can officially go on the books. And while so far proponents of a GMO labeling initiative have found allies in one adjacent state, it could very well be a long-time coming before the proper support is rallied.

In Mexico: On October 10th, the media in Mexico City cited the group La Copachera for announcing that genetically engineered corn has been banned in Mexico. According to the press release issued by La Copachera, a Mexican Federal Judge has ordered Mexico’s Secretariat of Agriculture (SAGARPA) and the SEMARNAT, which is a secretariat similar to the Environmental protection Agency (EPA) in the USA, to immediately suspend all activities involving the planting of transgenic corn in the country and end the granting of permission for experimental and pilot commercial plantings. The unprecedented ban on GMOs in Mexico was issued by judge Jaime Eduardo Verdugo J, at the Twelfth Federal District Court of Mexico City.

The US Supreme Court: The U.S. Supreme Court on January 14th issued a decision in the landmark federal lawsuit, Organic Seed Growers and Trade Association (OSGATA) et al v. Monsanto. Organic farmers were denied the right to argue their case in court and gain protection from potential abuse by the agrochemical and genetic engineering giant, Monsanto. Additionally, the high court decision dashes the hopes of family farmers who sought the opportunity to prove in court Monsanto’s genetically engineered seed patents are invalid. Monsanto has prosecuted farmers who have been impacted by stray engineered plants that have nomadically invaded their own non-modified crops and have been rewarded judgments putting farmers out of business.

Does it seem peculiar to you that the only Federal Action in the United States was taken to protect the abusive chemical companies at the expense of family farmers?

Tell Congress and FDA: Don’t betray the American public on GMO labeling. Demand mandatory labeling of genetically engineered foods and don’t let Congress destroy our only hope of protecting our families, our farms and our food from untested and unlabeled GMO food! This is no time to be shy, do it! Every voice counts. URGENT!

This is serious business for the world future!

(JMV)

---

"GMO's"...Sample Letter or Email

Dear ____________________________,

I am writing because I support strong mandatory labeling of genetically engineered foods and I have just learned of a new plan by biotech seed and chemical companies and giant food corporations to introduce a piece of legislation that would not only undermine states’ rights to pass GMO labeling laws, but would only require “voluntary” labeling on “any products” from GMO plants “if those ingredients present a health or safety risk.” For the past 20 years the U.S. government has continued to deny any risk from genetic engineering, despite increasing scientific evidence that this flawed technology is potentially harmful to human health and the environment. Already, 64 other countries around the world inform their citizens if their food has been genetically engineered in a laboratory with simple labels, and it’s time that we share that basic right.

America must join the rest of the civilized world and pass a strong mandatory labeling bill that is in line with European standards to protect America’s right to know what’s in their food and inform consumers if our food has been genetically engineered.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

Please Note:
For Door County DCEC Newsletter Readers, you would write to Reid Ribble. For all other DCEC Newsletter Readers, you would write the congressman that represents your congressional district. (Wisconsin Residents: Please refer to page 9 for email addresses of Reid Ribble and Senators Ron Johnson and Tammy Baldwin).
The 5th Sustainability Fair now called the Sustainable Living Fair will be held on April 25 and 26, 2014 at Crossroads at Big Creek on Friday night and at Martin Park in Sturgeon Bay on Saturday. This year, partners include Sustain Door, the Door County Environmental Council, the Clean Water Action Council, the Door County Climate Change Coalition, the Door Peninsula Astronomical Society, and the Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership.

The kickoff on Friday will focus on water related themes that critically look at the current health of our waters and what challenges and opportunities exist to enhance our wetlands, rivers, and lakes. Speakers will include Tracy Hames, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Wetlands Association, Denny Caneff, Executive Director of the Wisconsin River Alliance, and Mike Strigel, Executive Director of Gathering Waters Conservancy.

On Saturday, the theme will be focused on life skills and tentatively include demonstrations on local food growing and preservation, grid-tied photovoltaic systems, straw bale construction, safe lawns, and water conservation with rain gardens and rainbarrels. Vendors and exhibitors will be present throughout the park and we plan to repeat a trolley tour to sites practicing the principles of sustainability in and around the area surrounding Sturgeon Bay. The overall theme is “Stewardship Today for a Better Tomorrow.” Please join us both days as it will be a great way to see old and new friends, and celebrate Earth Day and Sustainability.

This Experiment Going On Next Door Can Affect Your Family

Permission has been granted by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to begin “test” spraying of liquid animal waste through an irrigation-type spray system at a concentrated animal feeding operation in Kewaunee County. The Ebert Enterprises farm experimental permit runs from January 14, 2014 through June 2015 at their location on Highway D west of Algoma and was granted in advance of the recommendations of the state manure study workgroup. The workgroup has not finished their meetings, nor compiled their data or any recommendations on this practice and have meetings scheduled into spring.

The Wisconsin DNR gives indications of a bias for the industry, and the promotion of big agriculture practices and innovation, perhaps under pressure. This is also indicative of the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture and some of the University Extension system leaders and the impression is they would like to see this practice implemented statewide eventually.

This area is recognized as a "wind belt" by the Meteorological Society and was the basis for locating the wind generation facilities in the same area. The test site, Ebert's Enterprises, is in close proximity to numerous residential houses, 3 recreational lakes and parks, the town hall, several restaurants and bars, and the Alaska golf course, all are dependent on the outcome of this experimental process, and unwilling participants as “research specimens”.

This proposed experiment subjects the “friends and neighbors” to possible airborne microbes and nano particles yet undiscovered that may be contained in and transferred by the wind-borne nature of irrigational spraying manure operations. There is plenty of evidence through research, science, and medical records that shows the airborne routes many pathogens and diseases take for transmission. There is also evidence from research, science and medical records that reveal the true threats of "super-bugs", and antibiotic resistant diseases, that are putting us at a crisis point for dealing with these diseases which have grown immune to our antibiotics.

Many questions go unanswered as this experimental waste disposal concept is implemented on a local community and with possible effects beyond with unknown boundaries.

1). What gives the DNR the ultimate authority to warrant that these tests for “risk assessment” can be done in our communities, without advisement from the State and Local Health Departments?
2). Who is responsible for consequences of this “risk assessment” experiment if surrounding communities have unfavorable reactions or outbreaks?
3). Is there any accurate measure of aerial drift other than “droplets felt on your skin or visible on a pickup truck windshield” as stated?

These and other questions about the possible health impacts should be answered before any real-time “experiment” with atmospheric disposition and transmigration of animal waste is imposed on the residents of any area, Wisconsin or otherwise.

Don’t wait to find out what is “Blowin in the Wind”.

Take the time to write a letter to:
Secretary Kitty Rhoades and the Dept. of Health, Department of Health Services, 1 West Wilson Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53703
Dr. George Stone's Special Invitation

The 11th Annual Sustainability Summit and Exposition

Conserving the Future Together

March 26-28, 2014

at the Milwaukee Center 400 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53203

Green enterprise in all of its many aspects will be a major component of future economic development – in Wisconsin, the nation and around the globe.

Much of the world is now in the early stages of a historic transition from old economies that accommodate far too much waste and inefficiency and depend too much on fossil fuels to new systems that are much more conserving, efficient and sustainable.

The Sustainability Summit and Exposition recognizes unprecedented opportunities and encourages investment and development in the green sector. We highlight Energy, Water, Lifestyle, Business and Workforce. This year, Michael Mann (http://www.meteo.psu.edu/holocene/public_html/Mann/index.php) will be the key speaker.

This Acclaimed Professional/Academic Conference Features:

• Two days of outstanding local, regional, national and international speakers
• In-depth sessions, panel discussions and workshops exploring a wide range of timely topics in energy, water and sustainability
• Exhibits showcasing products, services and opportunities in new wave investment, development, education and employment
• Opportunities to network with leading industry, government, consumer and academic experts

Wednesday March 26 – 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. • Thursday March 27 – 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Who Said This?

"Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don’t matter and those who matter, don’t mind.”

Dr. Seuss: Sneetches Are Sneetches
New Concerns About Glyphosate Are Emerging

Monsanto’s herbicide, glyphosate, marketed as Roundup, Rodeo, Pondmaster and a few other trade names with added “inert” ingredients, has become virtually ubiquitous based on a presumption of harmlessness in humans. In spite of noxious and aggressive super weeds that have developed in response and a host of reports citing harm and potential harm to the environment and farm animals, this premise of innocence has resulted in its use nearly everywhere. Because of that same image of innocence, its use has multiplied astronomically.

Glyphosate was originally developed by a pharmaceutical company, but its weed-killing properties were patented by the US company Monsanto in the 1970s. Monsanto’s patent expired outside the USA in 1991, and in the US in 2000. Since then, other pesticide companies have marketed their own glyphosate products, and many hundreds of different glyphosate-containing herbicides are now sold around the world. Despite this competition, Monsanto has used a wide range of strategies to keep its hold on the market and still accounts for around half of global production. Its strategy for the last two decades has centered on genetically modified (GM) glyphosate resistant crops. Glyphosate is not used in its pure form in herbicide formulations. Firstly, it is combined with an alkali, creating a salt. Commonly used alkalis include ammonium, trimethylsulphonium (trimesium) and isopropyl-ammonium (IPA), a chemical used in dye manufacture. Other substances are also added to the glyphosate-containing herbicide. For example, chemicals known as surfactants are used to increase glyphosate’s ability to penetrate into plant cells by neutralizing the waxy coating of leaves.

The exact combination of chemicals used in any herbicide is a commercial secret. In fact, only glyphosate, which is called the ‘active ingredient’, has to be listed on the product label. This means it is difficult to find out exactly what is in any of the glyphosate-containing herbicides being sold around the world.

Worldwide, around 650,000 tons of glyphosate products were used in 2011 and sales were worth around US $6.5 billion in 2010, more than the value of all other herbicides combined. And its use keeps increasing, in large part because of the production of GM crops - one industry analyst is predicting global glyphosate use could double by 2017.

Glyphosate and genetically modified crops (GMOs)

Genetic modification is a technology that uses various techniques to alter the DNA of plants and animals. In the 1990s, Monsanto developed crop plants that were genetically modified to resist the effects of glyphosate. Up to this point, glyphosate could not be directly applied to growing crops, but GM crops opened a new market for the herbicide. Today, 85% of the GM crops grown globally are herbicide resistant, and almost half (65 million acres) of US cultivated crop land was planted with Monsanto’s ‘Roundup Ready’ crops in 2012.

No GM herbicide resistant crops have yet been authorized for commercial production in the European Union, but there are 14 applications for approval of GM glyphosate resistant crops being considered by the European Commission. Most of them are for GM maize, as well as GM cotton, GM soybeans, and GM sugar beets. Monsanto claims that if these GM crops are approved, there will be a reduction in pesticide use, but evidence from countries where GM glyphosate-resistant crops are already grown shows the opposite.

The Western diet is a perfect delivery system for toxic chemicals used in industrial agriculture. It consists primarily of processed foods based on corn, wheat, soy and sugar, and they’re consumed in high quantities. Chemical residues of insecticides, fungicides and herbicides like glyphosate contaminate the entire diet.

Roundup Ready GM crops have become the mainstay of Agribusiness. These include soy, beet sugar, and corn which supply the bulk of the processed food industry. High fructose corn syrup, implicated in the diabetes epidemic, is produced mostly with GM corn. Cotton is genetically engineered and its oil has entered the food supply.

Glyphosate is systemic in plants, so it cannot be washed off. If it’s used on a crop, it will be in the food produced from it. All the soy, sugar, cotton, and corn that ends up in packaged foods is carrying it into our bodies. The bulk of our diets consists of GM grain crops. Grain and sugar crops take up higher levels of glyphosate than other crops. Therefore, the flesh, eggs, and milk of CAFO-raised animals are also contaminated with glyphosate, which enters the food pipeline.
New Concerns About Glyphosate Are Emerging (Continued)

Glyphosate is used not only on Roundup Ready crops, but also on glyphosate-sensitive sugar cane and wheat shortly before harvest, when it acts as a dessicant (dryer). It’s also used as a dessicant on Roundup Ready sugar beets, canola, and cottonseed for oils, among others. The perception that glyphosate is not toxic in humans results in the difficulty of obtaining figures on how much glyphosate ends up in the food supply. The United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA’s) Pesticide Data Program is voluntary. Searching for information on residues for the year 2010, the most recent year for which data is provided, shows residue levels for all pesticides except glyphosate and another organophosphate, glufosinate. The USDA has simply not monitored residue levels for either of these herbicides, though they will this year (2014), but only for a small sampling of glyphosate residues in soy.

Governments have failed to control use of glyphosate.

The precautionary principle has not been in evidence anywhere. The drive to use it has increased as the use of glyphosate on Roundup Ready crops, which has driven development of noxious super weeds. Therefore, Agribusiness in the forms of chemical and biotech industries have demanded increased limits on glyphosate residue. The EU and UK, where no GM crops are currently grown for human consumption, increased the limit for soy from 0.1 parts per million to 20 ppm—a 200-fold increase! The US limit for soy is currently the same.

A new report from the journal Entropy turns the proposition of glyphosate’s innocence in human health upside down. An exhaustive review of existing research in which 287 studies were reviewed, coupled with irrefutable logic, produces a frightening picture of the reality: Glyphosate may be the single most devastating substance ever introduced into agribusiness.

As the authors, Anthony Samsel and Stephanie Seneff, concluded; the proven and probable effects of glyphosate are manifold. The meteoric rise in chronic diseases and metabolic disorders has occurred during the same time period that glyphosate was introduced, and has followed a trajectory much like that of the herbicide’s massive increase in use.

At some point, officials in power must take their heads out of the sand and address the evidence that ties glyphosate to the epidemic of chronic diseases. Samsel and Seneff have now collected, sorted, and logically extrapolated on evidence from studies, and they leave little question that there must be an association between the herbicide and the phenomenon of massive and increasing ill health.

Samsel and Seneff do not oversell their findings. They clarify that “glyphosate is not the only toxin in today’s world. Nonetheless, its known effects on some of the human body’s most basic functions—disruption of gut bacteria, impairment of sulphate transport, and interference with CYP enzyme activity—indicate that, at the very least, glyphosate must have a synergistic effect with other environmental toxins.”

“It is, therefore, imperative that—at the very least—a moratorium be declared on the use of glyphosate until and unless it can be demonstrated to be safe. Surely it’s long past time to apply the precautionary principle to glyphosate and its partner in synergy, Roundup. The toll in human suffering, not to mention costs to society and economic losses, cannot be allowed to continue.”

It’s not likely that anyone in authority in the United States would extend themselves to even consider a moratorium, especially with the big contributions that are made to suppress investigative research by the purveyors of the chemical industry. There has been no research into the varied ramifications of the use of Glyphosate et.al. in the United States since 2009, while European nations and Asian countries have taken action to protect their citizens and their environment from further abuse.

This is a not-so-subtle message for our leadership in Madison and Washington. ACT!

Credits:

Longevity News
Friends of the Earth – Europe
Entropy – Anthony Samsel & Stephanie Seneff 2013
“Glyphosate’s Suppression of Cytochrome P450 Enzymes and Amino Acids Biosynthesis by the Gut Microbiome: Pathways to Modern Diseases” Entropy 15, No 4: 1416-1463, doi 10.3390.

(JMV)
Follow Us:

"Like" Us on Facebook

"If you are a DCEC member and would like to serve on the Board of Directors, contact Jerry at 920-743-6003 for more information".

DCEC Membership is current with 2014’s calendar year, have you renewed your membership?

- If you haven’t renewed your membership, you can renew now for this year and save DCEC some mailing costs.
- You can become a member, quickly and easily, by filling out the included membership blank.
- You can even become a member of the Board of Directors and have a direct influence on issues affecting this great, beautiful county.
- You can renew online with PayPal, it’s easy and secure.

DCEC Endowment Fund

The DCEC Endowment Fund exists so that the future of Door County’s open spaces and family farms can be protected far into the future.

Every year the fund grows as contributions are made and the interest accumulates. You can help this important fund grow even faster by remembering DCEC in your estate plans. Each bequest, through your will and estate funding helps bring us one step closer to financial independence, allowing us to take tough, sometimes unpopular positions that protect our county for future generations.

Whether you can contribute now or later please make a point of supporting the DCEC ENDOWMENT FUND.

Legacies, memorials, and direct gifts are deeply appreciated. Please call or have your advisor contact Jerry Viste at: (920) 743-6003 or dcec@itol.com for further information.

---

DCEC’S Leadership

PRESIDENT: Steve Eatough • Sister Bay
1st VICE-PRESIDENT: Eileen Andera • Sturgeon Bay
2nd VICE-PRESIDENT: Phyllis Ingwersen • Sister Bay
TREASURER: Bernice Shumway • Sister Bay
SECRETARY: Carol Sills • Baileys Harbor
DIRECTORS: Carl Madsen • Sister Bay
Robert Merline • Fish Creek
Dave Tupa • Jacksonport
Paul Leline • Baileys Harbor
HONORARY DIRECTORS: Tony Haswell
James Ingwersen
Flora Langlois
John F. Wilson
Karen Wilson
Libby Zimmerman

STAFF:
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Jerry Viste • Sturgeon Bay
MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR: Ray Kostiuk • Fish Creek

GOVERNOR: Scott Walker
P.O. Box 7863 • Madison, WI 53707-7863
(608) 266-1212 • govgeneral@wisconsin.gov

STATE SENATOR: Frank Lasee
Box 7882, State Capitol • Madison, WI 53707-7882
(608) 266-3512 • sen.lasee@legis.wisconsin.gov

STATE ASSEMBLY: Garey Bies
Box 8952, State Capitol • Madison, WI 53708-8952
(688) 482-0001 (toll free) • rep.bies@legis.wisconsin.gov

US SENATOR: Ron Johnson
386 Russell Senate Office Bldg. • Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-5323 • ron.johnson@ronjohnson.senate.gov

US SENATOR: Tammy Baldwin
1 Russell Courtyard • Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-5653 • www.baldwin.senate.gov

US CONGRESSMAN: Reid Ribble
1513 Longworth House Office Bldg. • Washington, DC 20515-4908
(202) 225-5665 • http://ribble.house.gov

---

DCEC Membership is current with 2014’s calendar year, have you renewed your membership?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>$35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donor</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student/Limited</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please Print:

Name(s): ________________________________
Address: ____________________________________________________________
City: ___________________ State: _______ Zip: ____________
Phone: ____________________ Door County Voter? ( ) yes ( ) no
Township or Municipality: ____________________________
Email: ____________________________ Please email me DCEC alerts □
Summer mailing address, if different:
Address: ____________________________________________________________
City: ___________________ State: _______ Zip: ____________
Phone: ____________________

Please mail with payment to: DCEC, P.O. Box 114, Fish Creek, WI 54212

You Can Also Renew Your Membership Using PayPal

---
Door County Community Wells And Zones Of Contribution

While most of the county municipalities that furnish water for their residents have documented plans in place for well-head protection, many of the smaller communities that have their entire population on private wells do not. Sturgeon Bay, Sister Bay, Forestville and Maplewood have researched their zones of contribution so the persons in charge are somewhat aware of the possible impact that activities within those zones might have on their water quality. Studies of groundwater recharge and movement indicate that the process might take up to a year for groundwater to migrate one mile, while in fractured dolostone or shale that migration time can be overnight. The zones of contribution need to be monitored to prevent significant amounts of fertilizer, chemicals, organic and animal waste, petroleum products and road salt from becoming problematic.

Individual homeowners need to be protective of their own “zone of contribution” which for them is an unknown area, depending entirely on their location and proximity to pollutant sources. If you are in a rural residential area surrounded by active farming operations, you need to be concerned with possible nitrate loading or fertilizer/pesticide residue from farm operations. Those property owners who are adjacent to lands that are crop rented and used as animal waste spreading land need to be extra cautious and careful to monitor your water quality. There have been numerous complaints about excessive spreading of animal waste and/or not-quite proper incorporation of that waste, and many of the complaints have been genuine.

Residents of Lincoln town in Kewaunee county (which is adjacent to Forestville town in Door county, nitrates respect no boundaries) have the distinction of having 50% of their wells containing excessive nitrates and cannot use their water for normal needs. They are proceeding with a contested case hearing on the expansion plans for the suspected polluter’s expansion plans with hopes to keep the operation from becoming worse. There are areas all through Kewaunee County where nitrate levels are very high. When there is an excessive amount of waste spread without the necessary control measures being used, a tremendous burden is placed on the wetlands that are “next in line” as receptors of the surface run off. Wetlands play an essential part in filtering surface water and retaining it to become groundwater eventually. Every wetland, regardless of size or quality, has a role in providing US with clean water. The argument is often made that a particular wetland is not significant because it is so small! Not so! Every wetland is significant and contributes to the zone of contribution for each area. If it is a small wetland in the city of Sturgeon Bay or out in a remote pothole area of Nasewaupee, it is equally important as a groundwater recharge source.

(JMV)

...and, after you read this newsletter, please pass it along to a friend.