

# PESTICIDES: IS YOUR LOCAL STORE STILL SELLING?

The *David Suzuki Digs My Garden* campaign has shown that beautiful lawns and gardens can be achieved without synthetic pesticides. Yet major retailers continue to market these unnecessary poisons. A recent survey found that more than 7 out of 10 Canadian gardeners feel that retailers have an important role to play in promoting the use of alternatives to conventional pesticides.\* Show retailers you mean business. Fill out the form below and hand it to a store manager.

We asked major retailers whether they plan to phase-out the sale of toxic lawn and garden pesticides. Here's what they told us, as of September 10, 2008:

## PHASING OUT SALES OF CHEMICAL PESTICIDES



### PHASED-OUT: SPRING 2003

Loblaw Companies Limited – which operates Loblaws, Real Canadian Superstore, Atlantic Superstore, and Dominion – was ahead of the pack in 2002 when it publicly announced plans to discontinue the sale of chemical pesticides in its garden centres across Canada, starting in 2003.



### PHASE-OUT DATE: JULY 2009

RONA confirmed that it will stop selling synthetic pesticides for cosmetic use in all its stores across Canada beginning July 1, 2009. RONA began withdrawing pesticides from its stores in 2004 and is replacing them with ecologically responsible alternatives.



### PHASE-OUT DATE: END OF 2008

In April 2008, Home Depot announced that it would stop selling traditional pesticides and herbicides by the end of the year and increase its selection of natural alternatives. As of August 2008, 65 of the 167 Home Depot stores across Canada had phased out the targeted products.



### PHASE-OUT DATE: NOT SPECIFIED

According to news reports earlier this year, Canadian Tire intends to phase out sales of pest control products. Canadian Tire did not respond to our requests for confirmation and details.

## NO PLANS TO STOP SELLING CHEMICAL PESTICIDES



Home Hardware currently has no plans to stop selling chemical pesticides but will comply with provincial restrictions.




TrueServ Canada, the wholesaler that supplies True Value and Country Depot retail stores, currently has no plans to withdraw chemical pesticides from its product line. Individual True Value Country Depot stores may independently take steps to phase out the sale of these products.



Lowe's Canada is reviewing its product line to transition away from conventional pesticides, but did not confirm whether (or when) a complete phase-out of these products is planned.



Wal-Mart currently has no plans to stop selling chemical pesticides, but is committed to making natural, alternative products available at its stores.

 **Do you shop at these stores? Take Action!** Detach this note and deliver it to the managers' attention on your next visit.

## I WANT YOU TO STOP SELLING PESTICIDES!

I \_\_\_\_\_ (your name) \_\_\_\_\_ want you to stop selling toxic lawn and garden pesticides. There is a growing market of alternative garden treatments that do not pose an unnecessary health risk to Canadians. Leading retailers have committed to dedicating their shelf space to these environmentally preferable alternatives. You can, too!

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Your comments: \_\_\_\_\_



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