



**PESTICIDE ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

**MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

LARRY HOGAN
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford
Lt. Governor

Joseph Bartenfelder
Secretary of Agriculture

James P. Eichhorst
Deputy Secretary

INTRODUCTION

The Maryland Pesticide Advisory Committee (PAC) was established by Executive Order (01.01.2003.49) signed by Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. on November 17, 2003. The Committee is comprised of fifteen members. Seven are appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture, after consultation with the Governor's Office, who represent public health, the environmental community, general public, pesticide industry, local government, pest control industry and the agricultural community. One member is a member of the Maryland Agricultural Commission, appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture. One member is appointed by the Senate President, one by the House Speaker, and one by the Chancellor of the University System of Maryland. Four serve ex officio and represent the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Natural Resources, the Secretary of the Department of the Environment, and the Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. The Secretary of Agriculture names the Chair.

This document was prepared as an introduction to the Committee, its mission and membership. Questions about the Committee can be directed to the Maryland Department of Agriculture or to the Chair. The Pesticide Advisory Committee provides a forum for the public and other interested parties to give input on pesticide regulatory issues and to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on matters relating to pesticides.

The committee meets bimonthly, normally on the fourth Wednesday of the month, in room 114 at the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA), 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, Maryland. Meetings begin at 9:00 a.m. and adjourn at noon. The meetings are open to the public and the last 30 minutes of each meeting agenda is devoted to public input.

Mission

The primary mission of the Committee is to advise the Maryland Department of Agriculture, based on sound science, on the proper use, management and control of pesticides with particular emphasis on employing integrated pest management techniques.

Duties and responsibilities outlined specifically in the Executive Order (01.01.2003.49) Section D. (1) – (4) include:

- Making recommendations to the Secretary for changes in law or regulation to improve pesticide management in the State.
- Providing advice to the Secretary on issues concerning the registration, sales, use, storage and disposal of pesticides, the certification and training of pesticide applicators, the licensing of pest control businesses and the protection of farmworkers, endangered species and water resources.
- After consulting with the Secretary, providing advice to other State agencies and local governments concerning their responsibilities in pesticide management and protection of human health, natural resources and the environment.
- Serving in an advisory capacity to the Secretary, Department Officials, and other State agencies on pesticide related matters.

Membership

The Committee consists of 15 members, 7 who are appointed by the Secretary after consultation with the Governor's Office. These 7 members have subject matter interest or expertise in pesticide use, pest control, public health or environmental protection. Eight members are specifically listed in the Executive Order:

1. The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, or a designee.
2. The Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), or a designee.
3. The Secretary of the Department of the Environment (MDE), or a designee.
4. The Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH), or a designee.
5. One representative of the University System of Maryland with expertise in pesticides, designated by the Chancellor.
6. One member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate.
7. One member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House.
8. One member of the Maryland Agricultural Commission, selected by the Secretary of Agriculture.

The Secretary of Agriculture names the Chair. The seven members with expertise in pesticides and the member representing the Maryland Agricultural Commission serve at the pleasure of the Secretary of Agriculture. Members may not receive any compensation for their services, but may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of duties, in accordance with the Standard State Travel Regulations, and as provided in the State budget.

Procedures

The Maryland Department of Agriculture provides principal staff support to the Advisory Committee. Staff are responsible for scheduling and announcing the meetings, recording meeting minutes and distributing appropriate information to the Committee members.

The Committee may adopt procedures necessary to ensure the orderly transaction of business. A majority of the Advisory Committee constitutes a quorum.

Meetings

The Committee meets bimonthly on the fourth Wednesday of each month, beginning in January of each year. Proceedings start at 9:00 a.m. and are normally completed by noon. An agenda and the minutes of the last meeting are mailed to all Committee members prior to the meeting date. These packets may also include reference materials, articles, or regulatory materials that should be reviewed before the meeting date. In the event of inclement weather, the Committee follows the Anne Arundel County Public School System's school delay or cancellation schedule. If school is delayed by two hours or is cancelled, the Committee meeting is cancelled until the next scheduled date.

Prior to the end of each Advisory Committee meeting, a total of 30 minutes is set aside for members of the public, or other interested parties, to make a presentation to the Committee. Presentations are limited to a five-minute period or less, depending on the number of individuals that sign up to speak. When possible, a written statement should be submitted before the meeting and an abstract of the presentation should be given to the Committee at the meeting. It is suggested that members of the public provide scientific citations or studies referenced in their presentations or provide reprints of the study.

Any Committee member who fails to maintain a 50 percent attendance of all Meetings may forfeit their appointment to the Committee. By law, any appointed Committee member who fails to maintain an attendance records is considered to have resigned that position. The member may send an approved alternate to the meeting however, that person will not count for the member's attendance record, nor will they be permitted to vote. If the member is interested in remaining on the Committee and has had extenuating circumstances that prevented attendance of the meetings, a request may be made to excuse the absences and the dismissal from the Committee.

Reports

The Secretary of Agriculture is required to report annually to the Governor on the activities of the Committee.

2016 Activities and Accomplishments

- The Committee held three public meetings (March 23, May 25, and November 3) during 2016. Each public meeting had at least a 30 – minute period devoted to public comment. At the March 23rd Meeting, Carol Holko, discussed SB193 and HB 211 both of which sought to limit the sale of any seed, plant material, nursery stock, annual plant, bedding plant, or other plant that has been treated with a neonicotinoid pesticide, unless the seed, plant material, nursery stock, annual plant, bedding plant, or other plants bear a label with, or is in close proximity to a sign that prominently displays the following statement: **“Warning: The product has been treated with neonicotinoid pesticides, found to harm pollinators, birds, earthworms and, aquatic invertebrates.”** In addition, the Bills sought to limit the purchase and application of neonicotinoid products to pesticide applicators certified by the Maryland Department of Agriculture, farmers who use the pesticide for agricultural purposes, including crop production, livestock, poultry, and non-crop agricultural fields, and veterinarians.
- The May 25th PAC Meeting provided the PAC members with an update and discussion regarding the Zika Virus. Daniel Schamberger of MDA's Mosquito Control Section provided the PAC members with an overview of the efforts of the mosquito control section in tracking and incidents regarding Zika virus.

- The November 3rd PAC Meeting consisted of an excellent overview of the University of Maryland's Pesticide Safety Education Program by Dr. Amy Brown. She indicated that in 1972 the USDA and EPA entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to provide funds for the Pesticide Safety Education Programs through Land Grant Universities. She also stated there is a core of 23 County and Regional based (some County Extension Agent) experts to help provide training for individuals who wish to become certified as pesticide applicators with the Maryland Department of Agriculture.
 - The Committee continued rigorously to abide by its mission to advise, based on sound science, the Maryland Department of Agriculture and other State agencies on policies concerning the proper use, management and control of pesticides with particular emphasis on employing integrated pest management techniques.
 - During the course of its meetings, the Committee received briefing on the following pertinent subjects in order to keep the members current on the many broad and complex issues relating to pesticide management:
 - Colony Collapse Disorder and other factors affecting Honey Bees
 - Proposed legislation regarding neonicotinoids pesticide products
 - Pesticides and the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Project – EPA's Chesapeake Bay Program Office.
 - Maryland Pesticide Regulation Section Program update regarding the new online renewal system – Dennis Howard.
 - At each meeting, a portion of the agenda is devoted to comments from the public. The Committee views public participation in our meetings as a critical factor to the success of accomplishing our mission. Members of the Maryland Department of Agriculture attend regular meetings with Federal and other State pesticide regulatory officials and report on the proceedings of the Committee.
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Recommendations

- There was concurrence by the Committee that the pesticide data collection efforts of the Maryland Department of Agriculture and the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) to continue to conduct surveys of pesticide use in Maryland. Maryland is the only State in the Mid-Atlantic area that collects such data.

Pesticide Committee Chairperson

Dr. Rick Kutz was a staff member of the Geospatial Research and Education Laboratory in the Department of Geography and Environmental Planning at Towson University. He also had a private consulting practice in environmental sciences, specializing in public health and environmental research, monitoring and assessment. He was also a member of the Editorial Advisory Committee, *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment* and served as a volunteer on the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee, Maryland Coastal Bays National Estuary Program. He had worked in various capacities for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from 1972 to 2002, including most recently as a Senior Environmental Scientist, National Exposure Research Lab and Fort Meade, Maryland, a Regional Scientist, EPA Region III, and as the Special Assistant to the Assistant Administrator for Research and Development. Dr. Kutz is a member of the following professional associations: Entomological Society of America, American Mosquito Control Association, and the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

Dr. Kutz earned his Ph.D. degree in entomology, with minor in ecology and animal physiology from Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, a Master's degree in medical entomology and parasitology and Bachelor's degree in entomology from the University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware. His research interests include the use of geospatial and landscape approaches to public health and environmental issues. He has published a number of articles generally pertaining to insect pests, pesticide residues in human populations, and public health and ecological research.

Pesticide Advisory Committee Members

State Senator J.B. Jennings – Represents the Maryland Senate

Delegate Charles Otto – Represents the Maryland House of Delegates

John Bacus – Represents the Maryland Department of the Environment

Dean Graves - Represents the turf and golf courses businesses

Mark Hardin - Represents Maryland Public Schools

Richard Kramer – Represents structural pest control businesses

Dr. Clifford Mitchell – Represents the Maryland Health Department

David Myers – Represents the Maryland University Extension Service

Donald VanHassant - Represents the Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Lindsay Thompson – Represents the Maryland Agricultural Industry

Thomas Pheiffer – Represents groundwater issues