

Margaret Donaldson

I am strongly against the use of Imidacloprid and all other neonicotinoid pesticides in Washington State waters. As a lifelong resident of Washington State, the health of our local environment is incredibly precious to me. Imidacloprid has three major strikes against it: not only is it toxic to all invertebrate life where it is directly applied, it can be expected to spread to adjoining areas, disrupting not just invertebrate life there but all the rest of the food chain. There is also significant uncertainty about the cumulative impacts to other marine life. I have eaten Washington State oysters all of my life. While I value the oyster grower industry in this State, these growers must find a different way of managing the problem of burrowing shrimp. The cost to us all is far too high.