Terri Wilde

Comment on Safer Products for WA

Thank you for these efforts, addressing this problem is long overdue. I have personally been injured by exposure to chemical toxins and believe that the health of our families and the natural world are threatened by the lax regulation that has allowed many dangerous and toxic chemicals into our daily lives. I truly hope this leads to sensible legislation that will prevent the use of harmful chemicals in products. I am aware that federal oversight and regulation has been lax. I appreciate that you are taking on groups of classes of toxins with intention to give a broad inspection of the many avenues we are exposed.

As a canary-in-the-coal-mine role, by body now reacts to toxins and my sensitivity grows with exposure. I wish to share with you what causes the most severe reactions. I have removed most of these by changing my lifestyle to not need a product or by finding products that are consciously trying to be non-toxic, usually at similar prices. I live with six other people who have also managed to find products that do not trigger me. Here is what I find I am most reactive to: pesticides and herbicides

spray paint

nail polish (and remover)

Laundry products! Especially drier sheets. I do not react to most laundry soap that tries to be eco-friendly or non toxic. I can no longer be close to people who use Tide etc.

Perfumes/ aftershave

Scented hand sanitizer

New cars, rugs, furniture

Body products: shampoos, lotions, soap, etc.

Cleaning products

cheap incense (most incense)

Furthermore I believe that toxins in the waters are affecting the salmon runs. I also believe toxins to be detrimental to cognitive ability of developing humans. Though anecdotal, I found correlation in my work with children.

I applaud action on this. It seems radically foolish to have allowed so many new and dangerous chemical combinations into common products without sufficient testing and labeling. Now we play catch up to try to get them out. The concept of the "precautionary principle" was ignored at the peril of our country. The high rates of cancer are undoubtedly connected to this mistake. Again, thank you for this work.