

# NEWS ADVISORY

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## **Mothers, Joined By Their Families, Organize to Stop Aerial Pesticide Spraying for Moth**

*Families raise voices, march and rally on Mothers Day Weekend*

(Corte Madera, CA)— A march and rally this Mother's Day weekend highlights the movement across California to stop pesticide spraying. Mothers from all walks of life, spanning all generations will lead the march in an effort to stop Governor Schwarzenegger's planned aerial and ground spraying of cities and towns to control the light brown apple moth (LBAM). Residents, led by moms from Marin County, San Francisco County, Alameda County, San Mateo County, Santa Clara County, Santa Cruz County and Monterey County will march together this Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> gathering at 9:30 am at Corte Madera Town Center.

"Mothers, the caretakers and nurturers of our children and our earth, are demanding Governor Schwarzenegger protect our families, our land, our playgrounds and stop the spray of pesticides over our communities", said Judi Shils, mother and Founder, Search for the Cause.

In an effort to eradicate the Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM), Governor Schwarzenegger and his Department of Food and Agriculture presently plan to begin aerial pesticide spraying in August 2008, and to continue to aerially spraying Californians, every 30-90 days, for as long as three to ten years, without knowledge of the immediate and long-term human health effects.

In fall 2007, Governor Schwarzenegger and his Department of Food and Agriculture aerially sprayed these pesticides over populated communities in Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties, including mothers and children. This aerial spraying resulted in immediate adverse health consequences for at least 600 people, and at present, wholly unknown long term health consequences for all the people. Ultimately, the whole eradication and spray program would be eliminated if the moth were delisted as a serious pest by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Now, Governor Schwarzenegger and his Department of Food and Agriculture intend to spray these chemicals over 7 million people, including the San Francisco Bay Area. Over 25,000 citizens have signed a petition opposing the spray. As of last week, 22 local governments in California had passed resolutions opposing the aerial spray plan, with more cities joining this list every week.

"Governor Schwarzenegger and his administration must find safer, non-toxic solutions for controlling pests in our communities," said Lisa Chipkin, Spokesperson for Stop the Spray Marin, and daughter of one of Saturday's speakers. "We demand safer solutions."

## **Mothers March and Rally Against the Spray**

**When:** Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> (The day Before Mother's Day), 9:30am - Noon.

### **Where:**

Corte Madera Town Center (Southern entrance, next to Charles Schwab)  
403 Corte Madera Town Center, Corte Madera, CA 94925

### **Schedule:**

**9:30 am** Gather at Town Center

**10:00 am** March along Tamalpais Avenue to Town Park

**10:30am – 11:30** Rally and speakers at Corte Madera Town Park

### **Speakers & Guests**

Jessica Assaf, President, Teens for Safe Cosmetics

Judi Shils, Executive Director, Search for the Cause & Co-Founder, Stop the Spray Marin

Paul Schramski, State Director, Pesticide Watch

Lisa Krausz, Co-Founder and Chair, Mothers of Marin Against the Spray (MOMAS)

Dr. Tara Levy, Co-Founder, Stop the Spray East Bay

Dr. Sarabenet Sequeira, Pediatric Alternatives

Charles McGlashan, Marin County Board of Supervisors

Mayor Shawn Marshall, Mayor of Mill Valley

Senator Carole Migden (D-San Francisco/Marin)

Assemblymember Mark Leno (D-San Francisco)

Helge Hellberg, Executive Director, Marin Organic

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