

Pesticide Facts – It's unbelievable that...

- 67 million lbs. of synthetic pesticides are applied annually to home lawns; add school and golf turf and the amount rises to 73 million lbs. That equals .26 pounds of pesticide for every man, woman and child in the U.S. or 8 pounds per acre. That is three times more pesticide than farmers use!
- 5 billion pounds of pesticides are applied annually worldwide, 20% of them in the United States.
- 672 million birds are exposed annually; 67 million birds die. This is a conservative estimate.
- 50 pesticide active ingredients currently used in the U.S. have caused documented bird kills.
- The EPA registers 890 active ingredients as pesticides, but this does not mean that they are safe or that they were tested in combinations.
- 103,046 cases of human pesticide exposure were reported in U.S. certified regional poison control centers in 1998. But these centers serve less than half the population and many cases are not reported since symptoms mimic flu.

Gulf Breeze is known for being surrounded by the natural beauty of the bays, bayous and Santa Rosa Sound. Pesticides threaten these ecosystems that we have grown to love. Please learn more about effective use or elimination of pesticides from the following websites:

- Pesticide and garden tips (www.birdsource.org/GBBC/spring/garden.html)
- The Environmental Protection Agency's Biopesticides site (www.epa.gov/pesticides/biopesticides)
- Backyard Conservation 1-888-LANDCARE (www.nhq.nrcs.usda.gov/CCS/Backyard.html)
- Landscaping with native plants (www.epa.gov/greenacres)
- Native plants and gardening links (www.plants.usda.gov/plants/links.html)
- Native plant societies by region (www.nanps.org/associations/frame.shtml)

Note: Developed from Audubon Guide for a Healthy Yard and Beyond