

**A public education program
to promote ecological
alternatives to lawn
pesticides in the Cedar
Valley.**

Practical, cost-effective and beautiful alternatives to lawn pesticides do exist. A growing body of medical evidence suggest that common lawn pesticides pose health threats to all of us, but especially to infants, children, pregnant women, people whose immune systems may not be at peak performance. According to the Environmental Protection Agency's own documents, "EPA believes that most pesticides - despite having an EPA registration - have not been adequately tested to determine their effects on people or the environment." We aim to reduce the amount of pesticides used in our community. This project is based on the practice of *prevention*.

WHAT WE ARE DOING:

- We are working with managers of area schools and parks to develop plans to significantly reduce the use of lawn pesticides.
- We are working with the Waterloo and Cedar Falls Public Libraries to expand the educational resources available on ecological gardening and lawn care.
- We are offering educational programs for homeowners, lawn care businesses, and park & school staff, focusing on ecological lawn and landscape care, native plants and other practices that take away the need for lawn chemicals.
- We have initiated a "Yards for Kids" pledge drive. Schools, churches, businesses, homeowners and other lawn owners pledge to reduce or eliminate their use of pesticides

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- As a church, business, school, child care center, or household, we invite you not to use pesticides on your yard/lawn.
- You can invite us to your school, church, or place of work to make a presentation on practical alternatives to yard pesticides.
- Ask your existing lawn-care provider to offer pesticide-free lawn-care services.
- You can support **Yards for Kids** by purchasing our lawn signs and our "*Natural Yards for Healthy Kids*" fund raising posters designed and signed by Gary Kelley. All proceeds go towards educational programs for reducing the amount of pesticides used in the community.

For more information contact:

Dr. Kamyar Enshayan, or Scott Cooley
Physics Building, UNI
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0150
(319) 273-6895
www.wplwloo.lib.ia.us/yardsforkids