

Vermonters Say:



Collected Public Comments & Petition Signatures for VT Agency of Agriculture

*Recommended changes to the draft rules on "Best Management Practices for
the Use of Neonicotinoid Treated Article Seeds and Neonicotinoid Pesticides"*



Presented by the Vermont Public Interest Research Group (VPIRG)

Contact:

Anna Seuberling

Environmental Advocate, VPIRG

aseuberling@vpirg.org | (802) 262-3758



To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

We, the undersigned, strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides.

For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, we urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

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Pamela Laurette Dein - Stockbridge, VT	Kay Ghose - Cabot, VT
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Tammy Johnson - Fairfield, VT
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Esther Manrique - Williston, VT
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Elise Marks - Burlington, VT
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Leigh Marthe - Brattleboro, VT
John May - Burlington, VT
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Kira McLaughlin - Shaftsbury, VT
Margaret McNabb - Hartland, VT
Kirke Mcvay - Shaftsbury, VT
Jamie Meditz-Leonard - Milton, VT

John Mejia - Hinesburg, VT
Genevieve Melle - Essex Junction, VT
Ann Miller - Bristol, VT
Terri Mitchell - Dummerston, VT
Adam Moldovan - Essex Junction, VT
Tad Montgomery - Windsor, VT
Kayla Moore - South Burlington, VT
Misy Morgan - Milton, VT
Erin Moriarty - Grand Isle, VT
Angela Mousseau - Marlboro, VT
Valarie Napowanwetz - Williston, VT
Ryan Neir - Milton, VT
Helen Neswald - Saxtons River, VT
Shelby Newsom - Wallingford, VT
Jenn And Bob Nixon - Middlebury, VT
Alessia Noble - Milton, VT
Elo-Mai Noormets - Westminster, VT
Giuliana Nuovo - Burlington, VT
Stephanie Nyzio - Randolph, VT
Mary O'Brien - Starksboro, VT
Carole O'Connell - Newport, VT
Barbara Ouimette - N Ferrisburgh, VT
Victoria Palmer - Marshfield, VT
Dakota Panton - Milton, VT
Jason Parkin - Warren, VT
Chris Paterson - Hartland, VT
Abbie Penfield-Cyr - Winooski, VT
Kristin Peterson-Ishaq - Essex, VT
Jeffrey Phillips - Shelburne, VT
Elizabeth Pinel - Burlington, VT
Rita Pitkin - Wolcott, VT
Ric Plaisance - Panton, VT
Denis Poirier - North Hero, VT

Lance Polya - Jericho, VT
Megan Pratt - Winooski, VT
Spencer Putnam - Weybridge, VT
Letitia Quante - Underhill, VT
Linda Quinet - Burlington, VT
Carissa Quinlan - Waterbury, VT
Ember Nova Quinn - Milton, VT
Martha Raab-Hall - Vergennes, VT
Lynette Reep - Burlington, VT
Erik Rehman - New Haven, VT
Rebecca Ricci - New Haven, VT
Louise Rickard - Lincoln, VT
Kelley Robie - Milton, VT
Kip Ross - Hyde Park, VT
Sally Roth - Bristol, VT
Phyllis Rubenstein - Montpelier, VT
Cynthia Rubin - Burlington, VT
Mary Saudade - Addison, VT
Sherry Schreiber - Bennington, VT
David Scribner - St Johnsbury, VT
Jason Seiler - Burlington, VT
Karen Shapiro - Putney, VT
Linda Shatney - Craftsbury Common, VT
Karen Sheppard - Burlington, VT
Nicholas Sherman - Shelburne, VT
Robin Sherman - Addison, VT
Miles Sherts - Panton, VT
Linda Shiffer - Milton, VT
Gretchen Singh - Weybridge, VT
Gary Smith - Bristol, VT
Deb Smith - Milton, VT
Janice Solektefft - Underhill, VT
Kate Solisti - Rutland, VT

P Souza - Bennington, VT
Jayne Stearns - Waterbury, VT
Heather Stevenson - Rutland, VT
Bob Stoddard - Sharon, VT
Andrew Stoll - Morrisville, VT
Melody Stone - Dummerston, VT
Leon Story - West Burke, VT
Caitlin Strong - East Hardwick, VT
Brad Summers - South Hero, VT
Dottie Sundquist - Sandgate, VT
Moe Sunnergren - South Burlington, VT
Amy Swarr - Windsor, VT
Elizabeth Swartz - Warren, VT
Richard Swartz - Warren, VT
Abigail Sweet - Cambridge, VT
Lisa Sweet - Shelburne, VT
Martha Tack - Sutton, VT
Freddie Tagupa - Milton, VT
Mark Taylor - Charlotte, VT
Alison Taylor-Brown - Randolph, VT
Sharon Thayer - Essex Junction, VT
Larry Thompson - Randolph, VT
Cindy Tilton - Waterville, VT
Rachael Timberlake - Montpelier, VT
Mima Tipper - South Hero, VT
Karla Todd - Saint Johnsbury, VT
Rebekah Tolle - Underhill, VT
Jen Towle - Newfane, VT
Cathy Trainque - Barre, VT
Deb Tramposh - Brattleboro, VT
Natalie Treybal - Underhill, VT
Bev Tubbs - Milton, VT
Mary Tudhope - Burlington, VT

Peter Tumulty - Essex Junction, VT
Pam Tunver - Milton, VT
Stephen Twombly - Roxbury, VT
Aj Urbanek - Burlington, VT
Helen Vaughan - Shelburne, VT
Lisa Vear - Shelburne, VT
Jill Vickers - Bridport, VT
Judith Wade - Jericho, VT
Melissa Wales - Saxtons River, VT
Joannie Wales - Burlington, VT
Jo Anne Wazny - Enosburg Falls, VT
Beverly Westcott - Milton, VT
Carol Westinghouse - East Charleston, VT
Mary White - Montpelier, VT
Katie Whittaker - Stowe, VT
Sayer Wickham - Thetford Center, VT
Margaret Wilkinson - Dummerston, VT

Eesha Williams - Dummerston, VT
Trefor Williams - Essex Junction, VT
Wendy Wilson - Bristol, VT
Darla Witmer - Stowe, VT
Laura Wittern-Keller - Pittsford, VT
Martin Wolf - Burlington, VT
Margaret Woodruff - Charlotte, VT
Olive Woodward - Castleton, VT
Bette Wunderle - Bellows Falls, VT
Maya Zelkin - Cuttingsville, VT
Terry Zigmund - Winooski, VT
Mary Zimmer - Richmond, VT

*Starting on the next page, please find and
accept the following individualized
comments on the draft rule, submitted by
Vermonters from across the state.*

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

This is so important to me. Pesticide use has affected me personally, my health (fibromyalgia and two tumors removed), and my son's health (cancerous carcinoid tumor). The future of our country's people's health and our agricultural future is dependent on stopping the use of dangerous herbicides and pesticides and helping to protect our crucial pollinators, which are disappearing across the country. Vermont is unique and has the ability to keep our amazing environment and life safe and be a beacon of hope and an example for the rest of the country. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Tracy Haught

Waterbury, VT

tracymhaught@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

We have been watching a steady and highly alarming decline of pollinators in the 45 years we've lived here, and are deeply concerned for the future. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Andrea Warnke

Montpelier, VT

andrealee6@aol.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

This spring, we see an alarming reduction in the number of pollinators. more than simply noticeable. It's not restricted to honeybees, but includes all pollinators. This is urgent! I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Mark Kelley

Randolph Center, VT

32dragon@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. Neonicotinoid compounds are developmental neurotoxins that exist in the plant its entire life cycle, which means it will persist in food derived from that plant. Eliminating neonicotinoid compounds from seeds and farming practices in Vermont will give Vermont farmers a marketable edge as a producer of healthy food. Grown in Vermont will add value to Ver's food products. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas. These chemicals do not just harm bees; bees are just the first indicator of the obvious problem of exposing plants, wildlife and humans to neurotoxins.

Sincerely,

Barbara Huibregtse

Danville, VT

bh54189@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas. Limit access of this class of pesticide to the general public. Most homeowners do not need this level of yard and driveway poisons.

Sincerely,

Thomas Kafka

Enosburg Falls, VT

tom.kafka56@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

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----We should do whatever is necessary to protect pollinators. They are dying because of what people and as well as being beneficial in so many ways, they should have the right to survive and thrive. They are not people but that should make no difference.---

Sincerely,

Kate Kenner

Guilford, VT

faunesiegel@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

It's been disconcerting to have NO bees this year in my abundantly blooming old rose bushes that used to be abuzz with bees not many years ago. The silence is deafening. Yet I have always been a strictly organic gardener, have never used treated seeds or sprayed anything with anything! I suspect the glyphosate-soaked farm field a mile from my house is killing all sorts of insects as well as birds - which are also far fewer in my yard now than before. This breakdown in the links of the ecosystem bodes ill. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,

Barbara McKay

North Ferrisburgh, VT

barbaraluciam@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Please protect imperiled pollinators! I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,

Jared Pendak

Bradford, VT

jpendak@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

As a beekeeper I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. While we wait, many more of our bees will die from the use of this pesticide
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Patricia Teter

Belmont, VT

patteter@vermontel.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Robin Worn

Huntington, VT

robin@gmavt.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas. The future of agriculture and our food supply depends on pollinators. Please help ensure their survival and productivity.

Sincerely,

Adele Bassett

Thetford Center, VT

wtapestry@yahoo.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

As a 'backyard beekeeper' I know first hand the ravages of neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides and I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from these harmful substances. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

James Burde

Jericho, VT

james@teiki.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I am 74 yrs. old and have lived around here since 1976 full time. I even did so the Fall and early Winter of 1970. Obviously weather patterns have changed along with our population. I note though that seems to be a significant decline in the bee numbers. I understand that the use of neonicotinoids in agriculture has had serious consequences to bee mortality. I'd miss the blossoms of Spring let alone what the decline in pollinators would do to our farmers' fields. I love Vermont and especially so in that I can shop at local farm stands and buy fresh,organic produce almost from my backyard. Civilizations come and go as we all do,but I don't want to contribute to that inevitability by allowing the use of a product that exacerbates those events. Find a safe alternative to things that kill bees ASAP. Think of the children.. and I count too.NO to neonicotinoids !

Sincerely,

william corbett

Saxtons River, VT

williamcorbett@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

We must do all we can to protect pollinators sooner rather than later-they are essential to our food supply. Please heed this petition! I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Susan Dewind

Middlebury, VT

jasz@sover.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

As a local food enthusiast, I supported the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides and I want to have a strong rule in place for its implementation. For the draft rule to be most effective, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft rule before finalizing it. First, please correct the timeline for protections. The final rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule now states. Second, increase protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption need use IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The rule also should require additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, such as requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance. Third, please clarify wording related to high-risk uses in nursery production. While Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rule does. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover such neonic uses. Fourth, with regard to aerial applications, a 50-foot buffer from waterways and key pollinator habitat is not sufficient to prevent contamination from aerial spraying. That buffer should at least be doubled to be safe. Finally, the rule should prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other sensitive lands, waters and facilities. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. With these improvements, Act 182 will represent a major step forward in protecting the pollinators on which we all depend.

Sincerely,

Wallace Elton

Middlebury, VT

oldevermonter@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from the devastating consequences of using neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. I urge the Agency to make the following changes to the draft before finalizing it:

- Please move up the start date when neonic-treated seeds become illegal. This is a crisis and as such those seeds should at least begin to be outlawed in 2029, rather than 2031 as the draft now states. Every year counts as the bee population our food production depends on continues to plummet.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are weak. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption need to be required to implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional proactive steps like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance of granting the exemptions.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involve blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Jane Gallagher

Waterbury Center, VT

pumawavej@msn.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

As a former organic farm inspector and grower, I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Brenda Hedges

Waterbury, VT

Brhedges@comcast.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing: - Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. - Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance. - Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses. - Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying. - Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas. **I notice that plants in my gardens that just a few years ago were loaded with pollinators are now barely touched by pollinating insects. The result is that my fruit trees have little or no fruit. My large shrub rose which in the past was loaded with bees of all kinds has very few at all. PLEASE ACT!

Sincerely,

Judy Lusk

Roxbury, VT

judithlusk@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing it:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Carl G. Martin

Montpelier, VT

carlgmartin@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing: - Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. - Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance. - Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses. - Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying. - Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas. As an organic grower of many years with an orchard, this is essential for me and those I feed. I agree with the above recommendations whole heartedly. Please consider how devastating the loss of pollinators will be on this planet for us and other species; it will doom us.

Sincerely,

Mary Sonnekson

Athens, VT

sunxsun@comcast.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

It's easy to forget about the importance of pollinators with war in the air, anger in the streets and a divided country. But throughout it all bees and other insects are keeping us fed by pollinating, fertilizing, crops, flowers, and forests. We must protect them. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Kate Taylor

East Montpelier, VT

ktay17@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

We must protect the source of all our food! It makes no sense whatsoever to continue practices that we know harm bees. Please act decisively, the need is immediate. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Tilton

Middlebury, VT

katetilton17@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

These changes are essential to making ACT 182 work as it must to protect pollinators effectively.

Sincerely,

Bob McKearin

Burlington, VT

mckearin@burlingtontelecom.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

As an avid organic gardener I have noticed the near complete disappearance of bees from my land. Some of my neighbors use toxic chemicals to promote green lawns without weeds and I know this contributes to decimating bee populations. This affects my apple tree yields and also the overall health of my flowering plants and vegetables. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Lisa Stead

Jeffersonville, VT

listead@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

We do not have time to dither. Please act like this is your only planet. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Sue Graup

Wilmington, VT

suegraup@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The sooner the better!
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Fletcher Dean

East Calais, VT

fletcherd@hotmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I know that farming is always hard. There's always something trying to destroy the crop, especially small winged or crawling creatures, but neonicotinoid insecticides cannot be our answer. Please support Act 182. After all, if we're left with no bees or other polinators, agriculture will grind to a halt. PS - Thank you, Mr. Tebbits, for your show 'For the Birds' on WDEV!

Sincerely,

Marge Drexler

Cornwall, VT

margedrexler@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I support Act 182, passed last year, to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid pesticides. I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft rule that carries out the Act:

- Prohibit neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031, as the Act states.
- Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. Include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring advance notification to nearby beekeepers.
- Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

John Dyck

N Bennington, VT

hardestydyck@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing: - Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. - Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance. - Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses. - Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying. - Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas. - I appreciate that we have VPIRG in Vermont to advocate for a healthy future for us now and for our children and our grandchildren in the future. - Thank you for your careful consideration!

Sincerely,

Carol Geske

South Burlington, VT

cegeske@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

As a certified organic farmer in Vermont, we rely on healthy pollinator populations and a toxin-free environment to grow nutrient-rich food. I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which aims to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. This is an essential step—but for it to truly protect our farms, ecosystems, and future, the draft rule must be strengthened before finalization. I respectfully urge the Agency to consider the following changes:

Correct the implementation timeline: The rule must reflect the law's requirement to prohibit neonic-treated seeds by 2029—not 2031, as the current draft states. Delaying these protections undermines the intent of the legislation and prolongs unnecessary harm.

Strengthen exemption safeguards and enforce oversight: Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce risks to pollinators when exemptions are granted—such as requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance. Crucially, there must be meaningful oversight and accountability to ensure these rules are actually being followed, not just outlined on paper.

Address high-risk uses in nursery production: Neonic applications on blooming ornamental plants are a well-documented exposure route for pollinators. The draft rules should explicitly cover these uses to prevent backdoor harm.

Prohibit aerial applications entirely: A 50-foot buffer from water or pollinator habitat is not enough to prevent drift. Aerial spraying of neonics must be banned outright to safeguard public health and environmental integrity.

Improve treated seed disposal: Stronger rules are needed to prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas to protect drinking water and ecosystems. Additionally, I want to raise a broader concern: just across the road from our organic farm, a conventional dairy operation is growing GMO corn sprayed with glyphosate—a chemical classified as a probable human carcinogen. The wind and water don't respect property lines. This toxic practice puts our pollinators, soil health, water, and community at risk. Vermont is known for its healthy lifestyle, clean food, and love of nature. I urge the Agency not only to strengthen the implementation of Act 182, but to take bold steps toward banning all toxic herbicides—including glyphosate—across the state. Let's protect what makes Vermont special—for our farms, our children, and our shared future.

Sincerely,

Amy Hartshorn

Waitsfield, VT

atnontox@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

In the past ten years, the decrease in honeybees and ground bees in our yard in Monkton is clear. There are farms all around us and they are not all organic. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Constance Helms

Bristol, VT

conniehelms@gmavt.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I came to Burlington in 1972 to help start University of Vermont's Environmental Studies Program. After retiring in 2015 after 43 years teaching and conducting research in Environmental Studies, Sustainability, and Natural Resources at UVM <https://www.uvm.edu/rsenr/profile/thomas-hudspeth>, I founded and remain involved with the Greater Burlington Sustainability Education Network <http://www.gbsen.org>. Immersed in climate change communication, education, and activism, I serve as a trainer/mentor for Climate Reality Project <https://www.climaterealityproject.org/>, founded by Al Gore in 2006 after his book and documentary *An Inconvenient Truth* published that year to educate people about already-then-discernible climate change risks. I'm also involved in climate and democracy activities with Third Act <https://thirdact.org/>, founded by writer and activist Bill McKibben. As a master gardener, I planted my own pollinator gardens and rain gardens, and help other people do the same. I offer this as background for my fervently urging Vermont Department of Agriculture to strengthen Act 182: I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

If I may be of assistance as you address this extremely important matter, please reach out to me at Thomas.Hudspeth@uvm.edu Thank you!

Sincerely,

Tom Hudspeth

Burlington, VT

thomas.hudspeth@uvm.edu

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Anna Kehler

Greensboro, VT

annakehler@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I am not a farmer, but an avid home gardener, who has watched in despair as the bee population has diminished over the 13 years that I have owned my home and gardened in Barre, VT. PLEASE provide support for our pollinators and support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides, and consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Kesson

Barre, VT

kathleen.kesson@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

To the VT Agency of Agriculture, I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Thank you for considering supporting these very important rules to protect pollinators and the support of farmers who are making the shift to sustainable alternatives.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Leo-Nyquist

Shelburne, VT

kjleonyquist@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

My wife and I have had this property for 47 years and have seen the decline in bee's butterflies and other pollinators. Since we no longer have horses, or cattle to eat the grass, I only mow fields once a year in the fall to let the wildflowers grow to aid pollinators, and we grow milkweed to help butterflies and bees also, and have noticed a steep decline in butterflies, especially monarchs recently. We rarely see honeybees now, and even bumble bees are not as plentiful, I do hope Act 182 will help bring back what we lost in the last few years. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Vito Macaluso

Tinmouth, VT

v.mac@vermontel.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Hi I am a gardener and maple sugar producer. As such, I pay attention to the natural phenomena around me. Currently, I am not seeing many bees right now. Nor fireflies. Butterflies seem OK at the moment, but I can't be sure about that. It seems abundantly clear to me that something (human activity ?) is running afoul of the natural world. It will be too late if we wait. We must change for the better now. In that conviction, I recommend the following: I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

marc mckee

Vershire, VT

marcmckee@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Please support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. This should be a no-brainer for the Agency of Agriculture. Pollinators are in real danger and if we can't afford to lose them.

Sincerely,

Anne McKinsey

East Corinth, VT

mckinseya@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

We strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, we urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Sue and John Morris

Marshfield, VT

mamasuepeace@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Dear Guardians of Our Beautiful State: I am the author of *Birding to Change the World* (HarperCollins 2025) and an ornithologist. I am very worried about the effects of climate change on birds, particularly long-distance migratory birds that nest in Vermont and winter in Latin America. And of course, birds depend on insect protein to raise their families. Climate change is so huge and difficult to tackle as a policy issue. But I strongly support this legislation (Act 182), which passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides--because it is something we can do, right now. Please give this legislation some real teeth. Change the draft rule so the law can be implemented by making the following changes:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Patricia O'Kane

Burlington, VT

trishokane2015@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Act 182 provides critical protections to pollinators that support the sustainable farming practices that Vermont is known for, and I rely on pollinators for the gardens and orchard that help feed my family. I urge the Agency of Agriculture to draft a rule that maintains some of the strong protections that the bill provides and to resist any attempts by large farms and agribusiness to water down the bill. Neonic seeds should be prohibited in 2029 as required by the bill and IPM should be implemented as soon as possible. Delays are against the best interests of every farmer and every Vermonter who depends on pollinators and the short term interests of CAFO operators and national agribusiness interests should not take precedence over the critical role that pollinators play in sustaining our orchards, apiaries, and numerous organic farms. It's also important to prohibit aerial applications; buffers simply don't work- even a gentle breeze renders the proposed 50 foot buffer from waterways and pollinator habitat nearly useless. The need for a rule as strong as Act 182 intended is clear. In 2012, I traveled to China and happened to pass an orchard where hundreds of women and children were going from tree to tree with feather dusters, trying to play the role that bees once provided. It's frightening to imagine the impact that the loss of pollinators would have on many areas of Vermont's agricultural sector, where a critical and worsening shortage of agricultural workers would render such a solution impossible. We must protect the bees, wasps, and other natural pollinators and the critical role they play in our larger agricultural economy.

Sincerely,

Jesse Robbins

Burlington, VT

jesse.robbins.vt@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

We are beekeepers in Essex Junction and we are in support of these measures. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Matthew Towle

Essex Junction, VT

mat7is@yahoo.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

As someone who watches bees & butterflies pollinating our flowering bushes, I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Laurelyn Veatch

Barre, VT

laurie_veatch@yahoo.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Please adopt strong rules to phase out neonicotinoids in Vermont. Act 182 will only protect pollinators if the Ag Agency adopts strict rules to enforce the law. Anyone who has lived at least 49 years knows that European honeybees are disappearing at a scary rate. In addition, please consider these changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Thank you for doing this important work!

Sincerely,

Kit Walker

Waterbury Center, VT

rr1box8282@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

I am sure you agree, these are not radical changes. These are all common-sense steps that should be implemented to protect public health and well being. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Karina Warshaw

Charlotte, VT

kwarshaw@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing: - Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. - Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance. - Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses. - Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying. - Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas. I have worked at VT organic farms and seed companies in the past and currently oversee gardens for the school district in my town. I see the essential role that pollinators have in our ecosystems. In addition, raw honey is a powerful superfood that boosts our immunity and heals wounds. We must carefully protect the bees to keep the natural balance that we humans depend on for our wellbeing. Thank you for acting on these protective measures promptly.

Sincerely,

Libby Davidson

Colchester, VT

libbydavidson450@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

This year, we are seeing no bees and very few other pollinators in our gardens, which are full of plants and flowers meant just for them. Neonics have proven themselves to not only be deadly to pollinators, but also only marginal in their use for getting better conventional crops. All too often regulators, politicians and even farmers think that the chemical merchants know more about farming than the rest of us, but they are mistaken. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Dan DeWalt

South Newfane, VT

patrioticresponse@yahoo.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

We need to stop using toxic neonicotinoid pesticides now! They should never have been allowed to be used in the first place given how damaging they are to our environment. There are things more important than the almighty dollar and profits on this planet. Please take action to stop the use of these unnecessary pesticides ASAP!

Sincerely,

Kenneth Haggett

Lake Elmore, VT

phase3glassworks@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Last year I celebrated the passage of Act 182 protecting pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. I am asking you to support the spirit of this and urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- PLEASE prohibit aerial applications! A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Marcy Hermansader

East Dummerston, VT

mhermansader@yahoo.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I was greatly relieved that the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. As a full time gardener that has always planted species with pollinators in mind, I was shocked this spring when plants normally covered with bees had NONE, NONE. This rule must be effective and in order for it to be so, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. 2029 will be too late. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees, and then people buy those plants and unknowingly contribute to bee die off. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Marcia Hylan

South Newfane, VT

1dandewalt@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule or Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, which is a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. This is essential! A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are absolutely needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be treated as hazardous waste and disposed of as other excess pesticides are disposed of.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Knight

Burlington, VT

sknightinv73@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

As a person with a degree in Plant and Soil Science and one who has made a living for a period of time in horticulture, I have noticed first hand the rapid decline of pollinators. This is an urgent situation that must be addressed immediately if we want to feed ourselves. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Jean Markey-Duncan

Burlington, VT

jmarkeyduncan@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing: - Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. - Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance. - Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses. - Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying. - Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas. Every year I see less and less bees in my garden, despite my work to create habitat and food sources for pollinators, and we desperately need to protect these incredible creatures for their own sake, and for ours. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura Parkes

Waterbury, VT

laurayncara@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Act 182 passed in 2024 created much needed--even if insufficiently strong--protections for pollinators from neonicotinoid pesticides. I'm concerned that the draft rule released by the Agency further weakens the law's effectiveness, and urge the following changes:

1. Move up the timeline to start the prohibition on neonicotinoid-treated seeds in 2029 as the law intended, rather than 2031 as in the draft rules.
2. Require growers using treated seeds under exemption to implement IPM to reduce the likelihood of continued use of neonics by default, and consider other measures to reduce environmental risk from exempted uses.
3. Explicitly include high-risk uses of neonics not covered in the draft rules, such as nursery-grown ornamental plants.
4. Prohibit aerial spraying of neonics.
5. Strengthen disposal rules to better ensure that leftover treated seeds do not become a threat to drinking water, pollinators, or the environment.

Sincerely,

Dave Rapaport

Burlington, VT

Dave.Rapaport@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Without the essential role that pollinators serve in Vermont's agricultural system, costs would soar and either importing pollinators or finding mechanical ways to do what they do naturally would hurt farm profits. Please strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Reed Sims

Jericho, VT

reed.sims05@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024 to protect pollinators from 'neonic' pesticides. Please adopt strong rules when implementing this law. - Make sure neonic-treated seeds are prohibited as soon as possible - Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions - Address high-risk uses in nursery production - Prohibit aerial applications - Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds We need a healthy, robust pollinator population! Please do your part. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Hillary Twining

Brattleboro, VT

hillarytwining72@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. This is urgent.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers and neighbors in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Leili Ansari

Danby, VT

lzansari10@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

We need the bees — and bees need pollinators! I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections! The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions! The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- NO aerial applications!!! A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Mary Chaffee

Burlington, VT

mary.chaffee@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Our pollinators are struggling and we need more to endure our food production thrives. Please include these standards in your rule making and move the implementation date up before 2029 if possible. Sooner the better our our bees and butterflyed . I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing: - Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. - Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance. - Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses. - Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying. - Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Victoria DeWind

Middlebury, VT

jasz@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas. These concerns should be shared by every human who eats food. We are all made vulnerable by the use of neonics!

Sincerely,

Mary Gagnon

Hardwick, VT

marygagnon89@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. Not to mention the mounting evidence that pesticides and herbicides are devastating to human health!! For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Andrea Grayson

Charlotte, VT

andy@andreagrayson.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying. Many people live near water sources and water their garden areas from there, and those sources need to be of pesticides poisonous to bees.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Gale Harris

Berlin, VT

galeharris37@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Thank you for caring for bees! I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

*additionally there need to be controls for blooming plants in box stores such as supermarkets, hardware stores, housewares, etc, that are not grown in Vermont and likely treated with nicotinoids.

Sincerely,

Beth Liberman

Hyde Park, VT

bethwliberman@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Act 182 is such an important bill, and I am proud to live in a state that is doing something serious about poisoning pesticides. I hope you will consider changing the rule language to 2029 rather than 2031 for the prohibition of neonic-treated seeds, put more restrictions on the exemptions, make sure the rules cover nursery-grown ornamental plants, and ban both pollution from any remaining treated seeds and aerial applications of them/aerial contamination. Thank you so much!

Sincerely,

Paula Marks

Guilford, VT

paulaandalanm@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. During the past 2 summers the numbers of pollinators on my property have decreased significantly. Three summers ago there were many, this year there are very few. I feel that the neonic-treated seeds should be prohibited beginning in 2029 because the sooner, the better. When exemptions are granted, nearby residents and beekeepers should be notified. Exemptions should be rare. -Neonics should not be allowed on ornamentals because pollinators visit those plants. Aerial applications should be banned due to difficulties related to areal spread from application. Leftover treated seeds disposal is a concern that should be addressed to prevent more environmental contamination. The rules set for this act are extremely important for agriculture and human health for the present and for generations to come. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kiva Ryan

Burlington, VT

kvrindexing@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I hope that you will take a moment to consider these ideas while you try to decide how to enforce the new law eliminating most uses of neonicotinoid pesticides in Vermont. I am very proud to live in a state that is taking this bold action to protect our children's future. Please consider how your decisions will impact our children and their children as well. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wruck

Wilmington, VT

michelle.k.wruck@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

You know neonicotinoid chemicals are harmful even when pollinators aren't the intended target. It's your job to enact this protective legislation ASAP. Please do your job now. Thank you. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Shirley Zundell

Essex Junction, VT

szund@aol.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Dear VT Dept of Ag, I've noticed that our otherwise lovely neighbors spray their cornfields with poison rather than till & weed. I've also noticed that they tend to spray in early spring when the dandelions are in full bloom and shortly after most of the bees in the neighborhood die off. So much so that I'm having to hand pollinate my squashes. This is a huge concern for the long term food security of Vermont. We need to protect our native pollinators. Any field spraying that does happen needs to be concluded before the flowers open to minimize the damage to pollinators. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Thank you

Sincerely,

Alia Clary

Cabot, VT

aliaclary@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I've read and re-read this and I agree with all that's written here. The only thing I don't get is why prohibiting the toxins has to wait until 2029. It should be immediate. The loss of income to the growers could be made up in some way, yes? I don't get how it's ok to continue poisoning the bees for another four years??? I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Rosie Flynn

Essex Junction, VT

funny3820@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, or even earlier, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- PROHIBIT ALTOGETHER aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Vermont's reputation as a strong environmental state continues to be false. Get us back on the right track by enacting strong Act 182 rules.

Sincerely,

Leslie Gensburg

Saint Johnsbury, VT

leslie@pshift.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Protect our pollinators! I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

As individuals, my family and friends plant pollinator-friendly garden plants, but that is a tiny drop in the bucket. Please do everything you can to address these issues.

Sincerely,

Theresa Gookin

Essex Junction, VT

vtgknz@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I am writing as a concerned citizen and as a member of Guilford (VT) Conservation Commission, where we have been tracking the worrisome threats to pollinators in our community. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Linda HECKER

Guilford, VT

lhecker@landmark.edu

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- About using pesticides near rivers streams or brooks
- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Alicia John

Danville, VT

aajohn866@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Please save our pollinators. They don't have a voice and they need our help. Our Vermont farmers will be just fine and can follow New York's lead. But we need to put our pollinators first and foremost. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Wendy Mackenzie

Peacham, VT

wendy@everlastingherbfarm.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

My community is full of passionate beekeepers. It is no coincidence, then, that our berry and fruit production is so lush. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Mastriano

Berlin, VT

nihao2001@aol.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Hello: I very strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Tanya Osadchey

Washington, VT

tosadchey@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I am an avid gardener and I see less insect abundance every year. We no longer have barn swallows and very few tree swallows; no kingbirds. All these birds rely on flying insects for their food. Neonicotinoids have played a role in the decline of insect abundance. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Rose Paul

Plainfield, VT

rosegeo@myfairpoint.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Dear Fellow Vermonters, I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Shawn Thayer

Milton, VT

reddart@comcast.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Please phase out the use of bee-killing neonicotinoid pesticides, as soon as is humanly possible. You know what to do.

Sincerely,

Nina Tumosa

Fairlee, VT

ninatumosa@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Ann Turkle

Waterbury Center, VT

acturkle@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, ease save the public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas. Please save the birds and the bees.

Sincerely,

Linda Turner

Stowe, VT

lindakturner802@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

We need the bees, and the bees need our protection!! I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Sarah Camille Wilson

Burlington, VT

scwils02@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I support the proposed rules in this message. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Eileen A Andreoli

Saint Albans, VT

mmmvt1@aol.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I support Act 182. Please consider making changes to the draft before finalizing:
Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices. Require notification to nearby beekeepers in advance. Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying. Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Sally Burrell

Bristol, VT

sallybinvt@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Support Dark Sky protection policies to protect pollinators at night by regulating artificial light usage, type, direction and timing. See DarkSky.org for more.

Sincerely,

Gregory Caicco

Montpelier, VT

gregory.caicco@silentpress.org

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses. neonicotinoids are systemic so plants coming in from out of state that have been treated should not be permitted. This is especially important for plants sold specifically as pollinator friendly plants.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Terry Cecchini

Shelburne, VT

terrcecc@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I come from seven generations, a Vermont farmers and gardeners. I understand the fundamental importance of a healthy pollinator population for both the ecosystem and for our human food systems. They are sensitive species, and we absolutely must take the strongest steps possible to protect them. It is because of this family history with the land, and all her species that I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. We have already waited too long to take this action. Another two years of an action will be very detrimental.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Liza Earl-Centers

Montpelier, VT

liza.earle@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

To protect our wild bees, and other pollinators, honeybees, birds and other old life, I would like to see neonicotinoids completely banned in Vermont. These pesticides persist in the environment and do a lot of ecological harm. There are other less harmful pesticides available to farmers and other growers. Please do all you can to eliminate their use here. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Debbie Hatch

Bethel, VT

dhatch88@icloud.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

I've been converting my little yard into a pollinator friendly meadow. There seem to be fewer bees each year. Very worrying!

Sincerely,

Deborah Kahn

Waitsfield, VT

doybia@gmavt.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections to make the rule consistent with the law prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Patti Lancaster

Mendon, VT

pmlancast@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

For almost five years I've planted native plants for pollinators on my 3-acre property. During the first two years we saw plenty of diverse bee, wasp, and bird species. It was amazing to see the insect and bird reaction to the new gardens. This year there are hardly any insect pollinators. The hummingbird population has also decreased on my property where I plant flowers specific for hummingbirds. What do you think is going on? I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Richman

Berlin, VT

suzannehummingbird@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

PLEASE AND THANK YOU! I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Ron Slabaugh

Middlebury, VT

ron.slabaugh@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas. We are losing our insects, vital to birds and reptiles. We are losing them now. Protections against these insidious pesticides should be stopped as soon as possible, which could be this year if you would just act.

Sincerely,

Margaret Sparrow

West Glover, VT

sparrowvermont@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

As a beekeeper and organic gardener, I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Phoebe Vaughan

New Haven, VT

phoebev@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Pollinators are more important than dairy cows. Agriculture depends on them thriving. Do not weaken the implementation of the legislation to bow to chemical companies or dairy farmers. The consequences of your doing so endanger our agricultural future. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Kristin Bolton

Cornwall, VT

kristinbolton@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- All seeds should be sold without fungicides or other chemicals toxic to the environment.

Sincerely,

Karen Burke

Colchester, VT

khburke@uvm.edu

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing: I have read the proposed changes below and support all of them. We live because of bees. PLEASE protect our little friends!!!! - Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. - Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance. - Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses. - Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying. - Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Linda Ducrot

Shrewsbury, VT

lindaducrot011@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I know you are all doing all you can. Thank you. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Judy Nommik

Newport, VT

judyatthursdays@surfglobal.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. These pesticides are lethal to pollinators and can be devastating to our environment. I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Make the timeline start ASAP - 2029 or earlier - not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance. Otherwise their hives may be devastated.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. While Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamentals, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do.
- Absolutely prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Kimberley Phelan

Fayston, VT

kimandandyphelan@verizon.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing: - Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. - Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance. - Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses. - Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying. - Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas. All of the above plus this. Pollinators are the backbone of our ecosystem and ultimate to earth's survival. We need action now. It may seem like a small thing when an all out unnecessary war is looming over us, but Vermont is the leader in showing the rest of the states how we survive.

Sincerely,

Cherue Schrader

Shelburne, VT

cschrader22@msn.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. We need all kinds of insects flying around. Without them, crops fail, fruit trees don't produce, and gardens similarly don't produce vegetables and produce. Respectfully yrs., B. Stephen Stockwell
Newport, Vermont

Sincerely,

Bradleigh Stockwell

Newport, VT

stockwell@duck.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- outlaw sales of Round Up and other products like it from VT based stores and prohibit anyone from bringing these chemicals into VT

Sincerely,

Jason Crooks

Underhill, VT

mwongera@hotmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Dear Agency of Agriculture: I understand that your agency will determine how Act 182, passed last year, and CRUCIAL in protecting our pollinators, our birds, and our environment from neonicotinoid pesticides is enforced. I vehemently support this legislation. It has been a very long time in coming. We have lost 3 billions birds in the last 30 years. We are in the midst of an insect apocolypse. This law NEEDS to be as effective as possible. As the now-retired owner of a wholesale ornamental nursery, I know that neonicotinoid pesticides are not required to grow beautiful plants, because we did it. It has never been of value to coat seed with neonicotinoids. It has been proven to be ineffective for the purposes that seed coating was intended. Instead, it has been effective at killing pollinators and birds!! It is the modern version of DDT! It is an extremely dangerous pesticide for which there are alternatives. I therefore urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying. I am strongly opposed to ANY aerial applications. This is an extremely crude means of pesticide application which is especially dangerous.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Deimling

Grand Isle, VT

beth@lakelandnursery.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. I am a naturopathic physician and there has been little to no research on the long term health effects of these nano-level toxins. We cannot risk using them for bees and insects and our own health. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Molly Fleming

Burlington, VT

mollycomm@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I was born in Iowa in 1956 and observed the unfolding of Silent Spring over the course of my lifetime. Iowa today has the 2nd highest incidence of cancer due to the chemicals found in pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers. Remember, DDT still reaches both poles from applications in nations that still permit their use. Anything applied in a local environment will disburse to the whole world. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. Do the right thing so my grandchildren's grandchildren can experience the great natural diversity the world blesses us today.
Scott Fortne, Montpelier, VT

Sincerely,

Scott Fortney

Montpelier, VT

scottgfortney@myfairpoint.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I am very concerned about the health of pollinators in my area of the state. I'm concerned that indiscriminate agricultural spraying and use of treated seeds is contributing to the problem. I called the Agency of Agriculture this spring to express my concerns and the fact that I saw few or no bees on my fruit trees. Additionally, my neighbors, who have beehives lost all of them this year and were having poor success with their replacements. One neighbor even quit trying to keep bees in this area because she felt the sprays used locally were killing them. I strongly support any regulations that will protect the health of the pollinator population. Thank you. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Jane Labun

Newbury, VT

jlalun@charter.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- I am a farmer so I pay a lot of attention to the crops we grow and what we put on them. Now for many years we have not sprayed anything on our crops, much less neonicotinoid pesticides on them. Other farmers can do the same thing and save some money and time as well. Perhaps in addition to stronger rules VAAFM could add some training to farmers to help them stop using so many pesticides.

Sincerely,

Michael Rooney

Hyde Park, VT

michael@rooneys.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

As an organic gardener, I have personally noted a sharp decrease in the number of all insects I see on a daily basis! I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Liz Schafer

Pawlet, VT

elm.schafer@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I am a home gardener with extensive vegetable and flower gardens, including many native perennials that typically attract pollinators. This year, I'm seeing very few bees, including native bees in my gardens. It is troubling to be able to see the decline. With this, I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Skinder

Burlington, VT

jenniferskinder@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I can't tell you how much I support getting rid of neonics in our environment. Therefore I am in full support of act 182. If we think it's expensive for farmers to do this now imagine how tough it will be when we need to pollinate everything with paint brushes! The above referenced bill says that neonics must be out of seeds by 2029. So fix your rule to be consistent with the law. And this alone will also save many, many You should also make sure that IPM strategies are consistently used. So that means that people using neonic treated seeds must also use IPM so that the hideous pesticides are completely phased out. You should make sure that pollinators are kept safe even when you grant exemptions (and you should not grant many exemptions). You need to make sure that nursery production is included. The amount of neonics in nursery plants is very high risk for pollinators and birds. high-risk uses in nursery production. Blooming plants are exceedingly attractive to pollinators so this is a big area that needs to be covered in the rules. - Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying. - Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Susan Stock

Shelburne, VT

sstock.neela.124@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers well in advance of any use of neonics within a specific radius of their hives.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be disposed of appropriately, far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Lisa Warhol

Randolph, VT

leswarhol@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing: - Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. - Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance. - Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses. - Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying. - Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas. -We should also ban spraying by the state of glyphosate on our roadsides and spreading of what amounts to poison in our lakes to control weeds. Both of which are causing cancer and also killing our wildlife.

Sincerely,

Michelle Bates

Wells, VT

mmorey1025@yahoo.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Dear VAA- I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Greg Larsen

Shelburne, VT

glarsen@kw.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

On my property I have several flower gardens plus a vegetable garden. I spot native pollinators in my gardens. I also have a section containing milkweed plants. I let them grow because they are beneficial to monarch butterflies. Therefore, ... I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Ron Pulcer

Rutland, VT

rspulcer_2k@yahoo.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support Act 182 passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoids. NRDC reports that in 2024-2025 collapse of honeybee colonies hit 60-70% and some beekeepers report that ALL OF THEIR COLONIES DIED OFF....imagine what has happened to our NATIVE BEES. Please make these changes to the draft before finalizing:

- make the rule consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- exemptions need strengthening: any growers using treated seeds under an exemption must implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. Also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted EX you must notify nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Absolutely prohibit aerial applications. Contamination from aerial spraying cannot be controlled.
- Leftover treated seeds can pollute!. Strengthen the disposal rules to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

diane reynolds

Huntington, VT

dianer@gmavt.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas. The welfare of bees affects us all.

Sincerely,

Catherine Sells

North Hero, VT

csellspt@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Dear Agency members, I have advocated for the reduction of pesticides in VT agriculture for years. I was pleased when the neonicotinoids / neonic-coated seed bill was passed in 2024 (Act 182). But it is only a good start in saving our pollinators. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. Allowing farmers to get exemptions without showing cause is unacceptable. They must be expected to prove that they are using IPM practices for the crops that they are growing. Some farmers may have to reconsider their crop rotations; farmers in Quebec have realized that the 3 or 4 year rotations do NOT work.
- The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involve blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Thank you for considering these stipulations in the draft rules.

Sincerely,

Chris Anderson

Manchester Center, VT

candersonzumba@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Hello, I am writing this evening to voice my concerns over the use of toxic chemicals in the form of pesticides. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. I am in full support of banning the use and sale of these toxins in general. Though for this current legislation, for the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Peter Heartwood

Ripton, VT

treehuggerfromvt@yahoo.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators like bees and butterflies and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning as soon as possible! We cannot wait until 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas. When we protect the bees, we're also protecting all the plant species that rely on bees for pollination, and we're protecting all the animals — including ourselves — that rely on those plants.

Sincerely,

Anne-Maarit Javanainen

Eden, VT

javaam52@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas. How about banning roundup???

Sincerely,

Cindy LeBeau

Vergennes, VT

cjlebeau87@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

[My personal comment: I find it startling that the new law does not cover implementation. Maybe this is how things are done, and if so I am now more informed. In any event please do not tinker with the intent of the law, This is long overdue and I want to see the strongest possible rule to protect our pollinators. K. Miles/Burlington] I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Miles

Burlington, VT

milesian.10@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

We need the pollinators. As so many environmental protection regulations across our country are erased, let's have Vermont set an example of concern for our futures and for these important creatures who support our agriculture and our very system of living at the most basic level. Because I care about the planet I live in and the people I share it with, I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Leslie Ross

Hardwick, VT

leslieross2323@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Hello friends, I am a local beekeeper here in my back yard on Strand Ave, high above the Whetstone Brook going down along Crosby St to Williams St. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Eva Shelby

Brattleboro, VT

evashelby45@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the raft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to make the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Naomi Winterfalcon

Bristol, VT

cearcbrot2@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Hello! As a Master Gardener who has been working to eliminate neonicotinoid use for 15 years, I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. While living in Maine, I ran a campaign in my town to increase awareness and support home gardeners to increase and sustain pollinator habitat in their own backyard. That organization was called 'The Pollinator Project', and was helpful in creating grassroots understanding of the need to protect and increase habitat. I've run workshops, planted demonstration gardens and given tours, and my yard in Newfane, VT is certified wildlife habitat through the National Wildlife Federation. I'm trying to work with a new neighbor, who has put 'sludge control' into his pond, which drains into our pond, and who regularly sprays herbicides for 'clover control' in his pristine lawn. I've been asking him to turn off the uplights which he has on every line of his roof and at the base of every tree. He looks at me like I have two heads when I talk with him about bird migration! It's a challenge, because he does not understand, nor seem to care--he's all about the aesthetic. I'm glad to see the legislature taking up rules which might give some teeth to the conversations--not just for pollinators and farmers re: neonicotinoid coated seeds, but for spraying, lighting, and planting to benefit and not harm pollinators and therefore, animals throughout the ecosystem. It's got to be a multi-pronged approach. Thank you for addressing this part. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses. There should also be language for nursery plants purchased in other states for those of us living near the borders.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Susan Ahl

Newfane, VT

findeventide@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

'Phase-out' should be changed to 'banned'. There should be no options for exemptions. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections of the pollinators. No exemptions would do just that.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - NO EXEMPTIONS.
- Address high-risk uses in nurseries. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly BAN neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Mary Robinson

Richford, VT

merob@myfairpoint.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I understand there will be growing pains with Act 182, but I also know the longer we put off decisive action, the more costly and painful it will be and the desired outcome will be less certain. The time is now to adopt the new rules and they need to strongly and definitively protect our pollinators. Some farmers may struggle under these new rules - at first, but in the long run, they'll be better off to look to methods that don't continue to line the pockets of the agri-chemical companies. I hope the state will step forward with ways to support our farmers as they make the much-needed shift.

Sincerely,

Sean Ruck

Middletown Springs, VT

rucksean@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I have been redoing my yard to include pollinator plants, buying only organic, minimizing plastic (hard), and more because of my worry for all the insects upon which our lives DEPEND. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Valerie Wood-Lewis

Burlington, VT

valerie@burlingtontelecom.net

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

How shall we produce fruit, squash, and a host of other foods if we don't have enough pollinators? There is no reason to curtail our ability to produce our own food on our own land here in Vermont. Big business will say otherwise. The right to grow food is a central human right and not to be taken away by profit-oriented entities! I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Josephine Carothers

Randolph Center, VT

scarletanager@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Please help Vermont maintain its integrity in our history of prioritizing the natural world and health of humans and other beings by adopting strong rules that protect pollinators and support farmers in transitioning to safer, more sustainable practices! I'm so proud of my little State and am counting on us doing the right thing for the health and wellbeing of present and future generations. Thank you! I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Faith Dubois

Swanton, VT

fadub2001@yahoo.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

Pollinators such as bees, butterflies, flies, and beetles are essential for both production of food crops and seed production in native plants critical to wildlife and ecosystems. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Shea

West Brookfield, VT

sshea28@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Absolutely prohibit aerial applications. Contamination from aerial spraying cannot be controlled!!!!!! These aerial applications can destroy bee populations and make certain immuno-compromized people like myself very ill. make the rule consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- exemptions need strengthening - any growers using treated seeds under an exemption must implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. Also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted EX you must notify nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Leftover treated seeds can pollute!. Strengthen the disposal rules to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.'
- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Sophie Evans

Huntington, VT

sophie.evans626@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support Act 182 of 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,

Bram Kleppner

Burlington, VT

bram.kleppner@gmail.com

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture:

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing: - Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. - Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance. - Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses. - Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying. - Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas. DON'T TRUST THE VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO DO ANYTHING BUT PROTECT COMMERCIAL 'large' FARMERS AT THE EXPENSE OF ALL VERMONTERS.

Sincerely,

John Viskup

Panton, VT

jhviskup@gmail.com

From: ajuliette13@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Aly Cermak](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 11, 2025 5:45:08 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

Key improvements needed:

- Correct the timeline set forth in the BMPs: The law prohibits sale and use of neonic-treated seed starting January 1, 2029 — not 2031 as currently stated in the draft.
- Require enforceable protections: Best management practices must use “shall” rather than “should” in critical areas such as drift prevention, seed disposal, and pollinator protection.
- Limit exemptions: Exemptions should be transparent, justified, and rarely granted except in qualifying circumstances. Criteria for granting an exemption, as well as the exemptions themselves, must be made publicly available, tied to documented pest pressure, and conditioned on the use of Integrated Pest Management (IPM).
- Prohibit aerial applications: Aerial spraying of neonics poses excessive risk to birds and their habitats. A 50-foot buffer is insufficient for protection.
- Prevent pollution from unused seeds: The BMPs should include mandatory disposal standards for unplanted treated seeds, including large buffers from wells and public water supplies, burial depth, soil cover, and runoff control.
- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Aly Cermak
297 East St Middletown Springs, VT 05757-4044
ajuliette13@gmail.com

From: annieb86@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Anne Barnes](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Tuesday, September 9, 2025 9:44:32 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

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- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Anne Barnes
644 Bee Hill Rd Williamstown, MA 01267-2714
annieb86@aol.com

From: littlewoofvt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [B W](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025 8:29:53 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

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- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,

B W

515 Oxbow Rd South Royalton, VT 05068-9723
littlewoofvt@gmail.com

From: bap4autumn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Barbara Pray](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Saturday, September 6, 2025 3:13:24 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

Key improvements needed:

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- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Barbara Pray
17 Overlook Dr South Burlington, VT 05403-7884
bap4autumn@gmail.com

From: bbrigham5@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Betsy Brigham](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Saturday, September 6, 2025 5:13:30 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

Key improvements needed:

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- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

I greatly appreciate the importance of your work on behalf of Vermont's wildlife. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Betsy Brigham
836 VT-232 Marshfield, VT 05658
bbrigham5@yahoo.com

From: tbarneyvt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Christine Barney](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Saturday, September 6, 2025 4:15:21 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

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- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Christine Barney
163 Clay Hill Rd Hartland, VT 05048-9534
tbarneyvt@mac.com

From: nckittenbird@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Cindy Grimes](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Saturday, September 6, 2025 10:15:22 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

Key improvements needed:

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- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Cindy Grimes
82 Church Hill Rd Websterville, VT 05678-4108
nckittenbird@aol.com

From: bearn1758@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Deborah Goodman](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Saturday, September 6, 2025 9:17:49 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Deborah Goodman
77 South St Woodstock, VT 05091-1232
bearn1758@comcast.net

From: diannelessard4088@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dianne Lessard](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025 10:05:57 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

Key improvements needed:

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- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Dianne Lessard
38 Depot Hill Rd St Johnsbury, VT 05819-9228
diannelessard4088@gmail.com

From: yanan31359@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dorothy Giunta](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Sunday, September 7, 2025 12:35:12 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

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- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Dorothy Giunta
21 Golf Links Rd Wells River, VT 05081-9515
yanan31359@yahoo.com

From: thechildrensgarden@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Edward Morgan](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025 3:15:48 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Edward Morgan
96 Brunelle St Saint Johnsbury, VT 05819-1226
thechildrensgarden@comcast.net

From: elinor91@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elinor Osborn](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025 5:45:49 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Elinor Osborn
1286 Lost Nation Rd Craftsbury Common, VT 05827-9817
elinor91@me.com

From: beth@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elisabeth Deimling](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 11, 2025 8:34:09 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

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- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

This bill is CRITICAL to protect both birds and pollinators. We are having both an insect apocalypse and major bird declines (the two are intimately linked). Both birds and insects need all the help they can get! Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Elisabeth Deimling
292 E Shore N Grand Isle, VT 05458-2319
beth@lakelandnursery.com

From: elise_create@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elise Marks](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Friday, September 5, 2025 11:08:11 AM

Be cautious about the following email..it has been identified as possible spam for the following reasons:

Unusual Sender

Unusual Reply To

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

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- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets' draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Elise Marks
87 Fairmont Pl Burlington, VT 05408-1928
elise_create@yahoo.com

From: ehoff802@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elizabeth Hoffman](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Friday, September 5, 2025 1:52:06 PM

Be cautious about the following email..it has been identified as possible spam for the following reasons:

Unusual Sender

Unusual Reply To

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

Key improvements needed:

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- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets' draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Hoffman
PO Box 759 Putney, VT 05346-0759
ehoff802@gmail.com

From: lons123@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Helen Lons](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Saturday, September 6, 2025 4:05:24 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

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- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Helen Lons
163 Jaylynn Ln Franklin, VT 05457-5735
lons123@gmail.com

From: calidris1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [James Corven](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Saturday, September 6, 2025 3:24:21 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

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- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

As a family farmer and beekeeper I appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals for all sectors.

Sincerely,
James Corven
175 Fenn Rd Mount Holly, VT 05758-9603
calidris1@gmail.com

From: jheldwarmkessel@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jeanne Held-Warmkessel](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Wednesday, September 10, 2025 1:34:50 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

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- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Jeanne Held-Warmkessel
110 Santa Anita Dr North Wales, PA 19454-4285
jheldwarmkessel@yahoo.com

From: zendogsfly@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [John Flores](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Wednesday, September 10, 2025 3:02:13 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
John Flores
134 Newfane Hill Rd Newfane, VT 05345-9505
zendogsfly@gmail.com

From: justine.logan125@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Justine Logan](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025 3:33:04 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Justine Logan
1253 Swinton Rd Bridport, VT 05734-8902
justine.logan125@gmail.com

From: ladieshaven1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Karen Hibbard](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Monday, September 8, 2025 5:14:43 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Karen Hibbard
115 Cumberland Rd Burlington, VT 05408-2473
ladieshaven1@yahoo.com

From: ravenbadger@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Karen Starr](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025 5:29:41 PM

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Karen Starr
151 Brook Rd Plainfield, VT 05667-9763
ravenbadger@gmail.com

From: kwerner@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Katherine Werner](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025 3:21:17 PM

Be cautious about the following email..it has been identified as possible spam for the following reasons:

Unusual Sender

Unusual Reply To

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets' draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Katherine Werner
354 Hastings Rd Waitsfield, VT 05673-7117
kwerner@gmavt.net

From: lisarock13@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lisa Rochelle](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025 6:49:04 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

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Sincerely,
Lisa Rochelle
6030 LITTLE CREEK Rd Martins Creek, PA 18063
lisarock13@yahoo.com

From: zimmer_mim2000@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lori Kettler](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Sunday, September 7, 2025 8:20:03 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

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- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

BMPs for neonic-treated seeds need to be stronger than currently drafted. Please make BMPs mandatory, limit exceptions, prohibit aerial applications, mandate strict disposal standards, and prohibit use on ornamental plants. The birds are counting on you!

Sincerely,
Lori Kettler
65 North St Burlington, VT 05401-5108
zimmer_mim2000@yahoo.com

From: loriezsido@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lorie Brock](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025 4:43:56 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Lorie Brock
113 Winnick Rd Bomoseen, VT 05732-9612
loriezsido@gmail.com

From: mmireault@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Maria Mireault](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Monday, September 8, 2025 9:06:55 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

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Sincerely,
Maria Mireault
3008 Maquam Shore Rd Swanton, VT 05488
mmireault@hotmail.com

From: mwalsh@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marianne Walsh](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Saturday, September 6, 2025 3:28:19 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Marianne Walsh
151 E Camp Hill Rd Springfield, VT 05156-9629
mwalsh@vermontel.net

From: maryphayward@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mary Hayward](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025 3:06:57 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Mary Hayward
508 Mckinnon Rd Putney, VT 05346-9278
maryphayward@gmail.com

From: marakup17@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mary Kupetz-Gardner](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025 5:46:51 PM

Be cautious about the following email..it has been identified as possible spam for the following reasons:

Unusual Sender

Unusual Reply To

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

Key improvements needed:

- Correct the timeline set forth in the BMPs: The law prohibits sale and use of neonic-treated seed starting January 1, 2029 – not 2031 as currently stated in the draft.
- Require enforceable protections: Best management practices must use “shall” rather than “should” in critical areas such as drift prevention, seed disposal, and pollinator protection.
- Limit exemptions: Exemptions should be transparent, justified, and rarely granted except in qualifying circumstances. Criteria for granting an exemption, as well as the exemptions themselves, must be made publicly available, tied to documented pest pressure, and conditioned on the use of Integrated Pest Management (IPM).
- Prohibit aerial applications: Aerial spraying of neonics poses excessive risk to birds and their habitats. A 50-foot buffer is insufficient for protection.
- Prevent pollution from unused seeds: The BMPs should include mandatory disposal standards for unplanted treated seeds, including large buffers from wells and public water supplies, burial depth, soil cover, and runoff control.
- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets' draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Mary Kupetz-Gardner
899 Texas Hill Rd Hinesburg, VT 05461-9567
marakup17@gmail.com

From: maridif07@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mary Tardif](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025 3:49:34 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Mary Tardif
PO Box 125 Greensboro Bend, VT 05842-0125
maridif07@gmail.com

From: mcreek24@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Matt Creek](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Tuesday, September 9, 2025 6:22:38 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Matt Creek
7717 Saragosa Creek Dr Plano, TX 75025-4910
mcreek24@yahoo.com

From: mshoenthal@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Melissa Shoenthal](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Friday, September 5, 2025 8:33:38 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Melissa Shoenthal
NORTH St Barre, VT 05641
mshoenthal@outlook.com

From: pjajod5@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Peggy Carlisle](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025 3:15:51 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

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- Clarify prohibitions for ornamentals: Neonics used on nursery plants, especially blooming ornamentals that attract pollinators, must be explicitly prohibited from use under the rule.

I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets' draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Peggy Carlisle
6655 Route 5 Sutton, VT 05867
pjajod5@gmail.com

From: rpieth@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Reto Pieth](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025 5:11:36 PM

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Unusual Reply To

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets' draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Reto Pieth
409 Route 121 E Grafton, VT 05146-9626
rpieth@mail.sover.net

From: swsgilmore@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sarah Gilmore](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Saturday, September 6, 2025 8:53:06 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Sarah Gilmore
33 Hanley Ln Jericho, VT 05465-3146
swsgilmore@gmail.com

From: stella.hab@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Stella Haberman](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 11, 2025 5:32:19 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

I strongly support Act 182, passed in 2024, which phases out harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides to protect birds and their habitat. To ensure the law is implemented effectively, the draft rule must be strengthened before it is finalized.

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Stella Haberman
4468 Linden Ave N Seattle, WA 98103-7269
stella.hab@gmail.com

From: stephen+texttest@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Stephen Dybas](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025 3:14:48 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Stephen Dybas
104 Hummingbird Ln South Burlington, VT 05403-4448
stephen+texttest@stagecoach.co

From: rosecreek2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Alan Robert](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on Best Management Practices for Neonicotinoid-Treated Seeds and Pesticides
Date: Tuesday, September 9, 2025 11:17:03 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets,

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I greatly appreciate the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets’ draft and the opportunity to provide these comments. Strengthening the BMPs will help ensure Act 182 achieves its crucial goals.

Sincerely,
Alan Robert
75 Main St Richford, VT 05476-1122
rosecreek2@gmail.com

From: alikharter@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Al Harder-Hyde](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 8:16:05 AM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Al Harder-Hyde
Vergennes, VT

From: alb172cs@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Alice Berliner](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 6:02:45 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Alice Berliner
Norwich, VT

From: alice47johnson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Alice Johnson](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:13:38 AM

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I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Alice Johnson
Saint Albans Bay, VT

From: alison.cerutti@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Alison Cerutti](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:13:10 PM

[You don't often get email from alison.cerutti@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Alison Cerutti
Northfield, VT

From: greenbergallan04@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Allan Greenberg](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 4:42:29 AM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
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- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying. My wife died due to cancer caused by agricultural aerial spraying!

Sincerely,
Allan Greenberg
Bethel, VT

From: aludwin@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Amy Ludwin](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 9:08:47 PM

[You don't often get email from aludwin@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

Dear VAA, Please strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. I urge you to stand up for the birds, & the bees, and our one and only habitat; if you could, consider the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.

- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.

The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should: implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.

- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.

- Prohibit aerial applications. Realistically a 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Thank you for your work and consideration.

Sincerely,
Amy Ludwin
Bolton, VT

From: amycswarr@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Amy Swarr](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 7:00:22 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

We have to be careful to not take the lives of other species to get rid of the ones that are considered "pests." These species are already in danger from climate changes caused by humans. We also have no idea what these pesticides could ultimately do to humans. Now that we know Parkinson's and Alzheimer's are likely caused by exposure to harmful chemicals, what are we going to find out in the next decades the harm done by neonicotinoids?

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Amy Swarr
Windsor, VT

From: liptakaa@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Andrew liptak](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:01:18 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Andrew liptak
Barre, VT

From: milliken61@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Andrew Milliken](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 8:13:56 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I spent most of my conservation career restoring and protecting habitats for migratory birds and other wildlife in Vermont, across the Northeast and the Atlantic Flyway. I am very concerned about the impact of neonic pesticides on wildlife. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Andrew Milliken
Charlotte, VT

From: Willoughbywellbeing@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ann Duggan](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 8:35:02 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Ann Duggan
Barton, VT

From: annspearing@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ann Spearing](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 1:44:50 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Ann Spearing
Hyde Park, VT

From: Annadrinkwine@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Anna Drinkwine](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 2:49:13 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Please!!! We need our pollinators, our precious & beauty's singing birds as well as our healthy seeds!

Please... and thank you!!
Sincerely, Anna Drinkwine

Sincerely,
Anna Drinkwine
Essex Junction, VT

From: swivelandjess@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Anna Morris](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:03:50 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Anna Morris
Reading, VT

From: acjericho@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Anne Cramer](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:13:00 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

Vermont is blessed with a beautiful landscape of woods and fields which if stewarded appropriately should richly support and be a safe haven for a rich variety of birds and other wildlife. But, it won't if we do not stop poisoning our vegetation with toxic pesticides!

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Anne Cramer
Jericho, VT

From: annejameson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Anne Jameson](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 8:08:49 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Anne Jameson
Marshfield, VT

From: hecate222@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Anne Zepernick](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:03:25 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Anne Zepernick
North Adams, MA

From: arielle.eva@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Arielle Gingold](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Saturday, August 30, 2025 10:46:32 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Arielle Gingold
Manchester Center, VT

From: bsimoes@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Barbara A Simoes](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:34:07 AM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Barbara A Simoes
Middlebury, VT

From: bdeal@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Barbara Deal](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 2:14:53 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

Please please, I urge the Vermont Agency of Agriculture to adopt the strongest possible rules related to the use of neonic pesticides. This is necessary to keep our birds and insects safe. I am also asking you to assist farmers in making the necessary accommodations to comply with the new law implementation.

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Barbara Deal
Bristol, VT

From: bgalgon@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Barbara Galgon](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:49:02 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I am taking time to write today in support of legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides.

For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I strongly encourage the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
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Anything humans can do to protect and support birds and their natural habitat is what should be done. We have the skills to create a workaround if any obstacles arise when working towards achieving this unwavering goal.

Sincerely,
Barbara Galgon
Hinesburg, VT

From: bap4autumn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Barbara Pray](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 2:03:28 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Barbara Pray
South Burlington, VT

From: braab3149@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Barbara Raab](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 1:18:19 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Barbara Raab
Vergennes, VT

From: bsimoes@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Barbara Simoes](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 4:40:23 PM

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Sincerely,
Barbara Simoes
Middlebury, VT

From: bequesting@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Becky Eno](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 5:01:57 PM

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Sincerely,
Becky Eno
Rutland, VT

From: bernardmalloniv@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Bernard Mallon](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:33:34 PM

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Sincerely,
Bernard Mallon
Jericho, VT

From: bbarncat@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Beth Barndt](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Monday, August 18, 2025 11:11:17 AM

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Sincerely,
Beth Barndt
Jericho, VT

From: bethrmckinney@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Beth R McKinney](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, September 11, 2025 5:56:10 PM

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Sincerely,
Beth R McKinney
Brattleboro, VT

From: bbahrenb@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Betsy Bahrenburg](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 12:11:45 PM

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Please stand up for the birds, bees, and other wildlife before it's too late!

Sincerely,
Betsy Bahrenburg
S Burlington, VT

From: potterw248@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Bill Potter](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:32:53 PM

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Sincerely,
Bill Potter
White River Junction, VT

From: bill@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Bill Wilson](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 14, 2025 6:43:53 PM

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Sincerely,
Bill Wilson
Manchester, VT

From: danceatctm@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Bob Little Tree](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 10:16:49 AM

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Sincerely,
Bob Little Tree
Hartford, VT

From: bhearthstone@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Bonnie Hearthstone](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 7:36:29 PM

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Sincerely,
Bonnie Hearthstone
Vergennes, VT

From: brent@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Brent Stephenson](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 3:07:33 PM

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We have already lost too many of our pollinators and iconic invertebrates like Monarch butterflies.

Sincerely,
Brent Stephenson
Stowe, VT

From: lorganicjones@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Brian C Jones](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 5:09:19 PM

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Sincerely,
Brian C Jones
Ludlow, VT

From: brigidclary2010@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Brigid Clary](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 1:00:50 PM

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Sincerely,
Brigid Clary
South Burlington, VT

From: cailc@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Cailin Comar](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 1:14:07 AM

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Sincerely,
Cailin Comar
Bennington, VT

From: caroleboc@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Carole O'Connell](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 2:19:00 PM

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Sincerely,
Carole O'Connell
Newport, VT

From: Maddensgrandma@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Carolyn Feury](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 11:36:18 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Feury
Tinmouth, VT

From: cbp306@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Carolyn Plage](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 8:23:09 PM

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Sincerely,
Carolyn Plage
North Bennington, VT

From: windyshadow33@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Cary Vaughan](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:02:35 PM

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Sincerely,
Cary Vaughan
South Ryegate, VT

From: csellspt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Catherine Sells](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 11:56:31 AM

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Sincerely,
Catherine Sells
North Hero, VT

From: catbunipeg@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Celia Bartlett](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Monday, September 1, 2025 4:09:56 PM

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Sincerely,
Celia Bartlett
Bradford, VT

From: alfaro.charlene@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Charlene Alfaro](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:16:46 AM

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Sincerely,
Charlene Alfaro
Stamford, VT

From: chaztipp@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Charlie Tipper](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 1:06:13 PM

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Sincerely,
Charlie Tipper
South Hero, VT

From: charlottebrodie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Charlotte Brodie](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:02:56 PM

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Sincerely,
Charlotte Brodie
Underhill, VT

From: 07-brooch.churn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Christian Peet](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 4:28:28 PM

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Sincerely,
Christian Peet
Saxtons River, VT

From: mermaidvt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Christine Cano](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Monday, September 1, 2025 9:39:17 AM

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Sincerely,
Christine Cano
E Montpelier, VT

From: vanjohn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Christy Johnson](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 4:31:32 PM

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Sincerely,
Christy Johnson
Brattleboro, VT

From: Nckittenbird@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Cindy Grimes](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:00:58 PM

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Sincerely,
Cindy Grimes
Websterville, VT

From: csenning722@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Cindy Senning](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:22:46 PM

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Sincerely,
Cindy Senning
Duxbury, VT

From: cwhitaker@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Claire Whitaker](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:20:48 PM

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Sincerely,
Claire Whitaker
Burlington, VT

From: petersclifford1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Clifford Peters](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:14:38 AM

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Sincerely,
Clifford Peters
Walpole, NH

From: lawlor.coleen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Coleen Lawlor](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:48:59 PM

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Sincerely,
Coleen Lawlor
Bellows Falls, VT

From: cmad.wtr@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Colleen Driscoll PhD](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:20:22 AM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Colleen Driscoll PhD
Middlesex, VT

From: colleennilsen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Colleen Nilsen](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 4:01:31 PM

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Sincerely,
Colleen Nilsen
Eden, VT

From: ctowen40@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [CRAIG BELVILLE](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:09:27 PM

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Sincerely,
CRAIG BELVILLE
Barre, VT

From: cricketbraun@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Cricket Braun](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:12:43 AM

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Sincerely,
Cricket Braun
Boston, MA

From: curt.alpeter@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Curt Alpeter](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 29, 2025 9:07:37 AM

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Sincerely,
Curt Alpeter
Charlotte, VT

From: buvmom@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Cynthia Landeryou](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 12:14:06 PM

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Sincerely,
Cynthia Landeryou
Hartland, VT

From: dpatnode@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dakotah Patnode](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Saturday, August 23, 2025 1:29:02 PM

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Sincerely,
Dakotah Patnode
Jericho, VT

From: dalebromley3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dale Bromley](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:21:45 AM

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Sincerely,
Dale Bromley
Newbury, VT

From: dhelms@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dale Helms](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:18:40 AM

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Sincerely,
Dale Helms
Bristol, VT

From: dhelms@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dale Helms](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:18:40 AM

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Sincerely,
Dale Helms
Bristol, VT

From: djeantyl@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Damaris Tyler](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 4:02:23 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

PROTECT THE BIRDS!!! SUPPORT FARMERS!!!!!! . . . Com.com. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Damaris Tyler
Wilder, VT

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To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 4:02:23 PM

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Sincerely,
Damaris Tyler
Wilder, VT

From: danastoddard@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dana Stoddard](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Monday, September 1, 2025 5:39:44 PM

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Sincerely,
Dana Stoddard
Milton, VT

From: dalechipmunk2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dani Hall](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Tuesday, August 19, 2025 4:10:41 PM

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Sincerely,
Dani Hall
Richmond, VT

From: JEPSON.DANIELLE.M@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [DANIELLE JEPSON](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 5:08:38 PM

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Sincerely,
DANIELLE JEPSON
Lyndonville, VT

From: palolaforest1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Darlene Palola](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 22, 2025 9:47:39 AM

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- SAVE OUR BEES

Darlene Palola

Sincerely,
Darlene Palola
Huntington, VT

From: woodmanvt2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dave Goodlin](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 3:45:51 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Dave Goodlin
Morrisville, VT

From: atspoons@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dave Ransom](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:40:40 AM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Dave Ransom
Waterville, VT

From: dsadkins1811@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [David Adkins](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 12:31:28 PM

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
David Adkins
Colchester, VT

From: dsbenedict3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [David Benedict](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 1:57:29 PM

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
David Benedict
Middlebury, VT

From: strictlytrout@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [David Deen](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 21, 2025 3:06:43 PM

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I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
David Deen
Putney, VT

From: dave@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [David Guertin](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 1:10:26 PM

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I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
David Guertin
Cornwall, VT

From: david.pistilli@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [David Pistilli](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:35:16 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
David Pistilli
Middlebury, VT

From: dmfoy1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dawn Foy](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 4:12:50 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Dawn Foy
Danville, VT

From: deangrover33@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dean Grover](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 12:27:03 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) that was passed in 2024, protecting birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I ask the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas, or properly destroyed.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications altogether. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Dean Grover
Huntington, VT

From: debgaryalicen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Deborah Alicen](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Monday, August 11, 2025 11:36:06 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024. I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft rule for implementation before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. Also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Deborah Alicen
Barre, VT

From: bearn1758@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Deborah Goodman](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:18:15 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Deborah Goodman
Woodstock, VT

From: otter@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Deborah Wachtel](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:39:36 PM

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Unusual Reply To

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
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Sincerely,
Deborah Wachtel
Bristol, VT

From: 23dhdonaldson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Deirdre Donaldson](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:12:24 PM

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Start the prohibition sooner! We can't wait until 2029, let alone 2031.

Sincerely,
Deirdre Donaldson
Brattleboro, VT

From: dak020403@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Devan Kajah](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:32:53 AM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Devan Kajah
Londonderry, VT

From: dianamorgan4@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Diana Morgan-Hickey](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 3:38:36 PM

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- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Diana Morgan-Hickey
Winooski, VT

From: baxterbeers@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Diane Beers](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 2:56:19 PM

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I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Diane Beers
Guilford, VT

From: dianedub@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Diane DuBrule](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 12:14:48 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Diane DuBrule
Vergennes, VT

From: dpatnode02@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Diane Patnode](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 8:38:53 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Diane Patnode
Milton, VT

From: dls0231@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Diane Stevens](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 5:05:09 PM

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Sincerely,
Diane Stevens
Essex Junction, VT

From: dianewarneck@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Diane Warneck](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 4:05:43 PM

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Sincerely,
Diane Warneck
Burlington, VT

From: dmf633@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Don Faulkner](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:34:56 PM

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Sincerely,
Don Faulkner
Montpelier, VT

From: dmdauph@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Donna Dauphinais](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 3:10:08 PM

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Sincerely,
Donna Dauphinais
Brownington, VT

From: dorothycarter@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dorothy Carter](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 1:24:54 PM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Dorothy Carter
Burlington, VT

From: improvisant@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dr. Lydia Lowery Busler](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 11:12:53 AM

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Sincerely,
Dr. Lydia Lowery Busler
Montpelier, VT

From: ecronana@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [E. Cronan](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 1:07:52 PM

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Sincerely,
E. Cronan
Middlebury, VT

From: thechildrensgarden@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Edward Morgan](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:54:18 PM

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Sincerely,
Edward Morgan
Saint Johnsbury, VT

From: elise_create@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elise Marks](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 8:08:19 PM

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Sincerely,
Elise Marks
Burlington, VT

From: elizabeth.burns92@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elizabeth Burns](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, September 5, 2025 11:30:01 AM

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Sincerely,
Elizabeth Burns
Albany, NY

From: bitdance@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elizabeth Farley](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:59:44 PM

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Sincerely,
Elizabeth Farley
West Windsor, VT

From: liz.guzynski@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elizabeth Guzynski](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 9:03:03 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

Dear Agency Members,

I can't write the recommendation more strongly than Audubon has, so I paste it without comment. In my modest town garden and neighborhood, I work entirely without pesticides & I see the difference it makes to birds, small mammals and insectae. But without broader protections, my small efforts become pointless. Please do the right thing.

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Elizabeth Guzynski
Bellows Falls, VT

From: ehuntschwartz@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elizabeth Schwartz](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 2:54:53 PM

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Sincerely,
Elizabeth Schwartz
Huntington, VT

From: epetca@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elle Petcavage](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:18:48 AM

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Sincerely,
Elle Petcavage
Colchester, VT

From: eflockwood@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [ELLEN F MCDUFFIE](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 12:53:36 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
ELLEN F MCDUFFIE
Windham, VT

From: erhosford@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ellen Hosford](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 6:56:14 PM

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Sincerely,
Ellen Hosford
Tunbridge, VT

From: ecthom522@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ellen Thomas](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:20:48 PM

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Sincerely,
Ellen Thomas
Bellows Falls, VT

From: elsa_angel@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elsa Angel](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Saturday, August 9, 2025 9:39:30 PM

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Sincerely,
Elsa Angel
S Royalton, VT

From: emilyboedecker@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Emily Boedecker](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 12:34:56 PM

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Sincerely,
Emily Boedecker
Middlesex, VT

From: emilyhunter5@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Emily Hunter](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 6:16:29 PM

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Sincerely,
Emily Hunter
North Bennington, VT

From: em.trostel@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Emily Trostel](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:03:03 PM

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Sincerely,
Emily Trostel
Hinesburg, VT

From: seyfren@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Eric Seyferth](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 11:47:04 AM

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Sincerely,
Eric Seyferth
Bennington, VT

From: 81irving@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Erica Sohl](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:21:29 PM

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Sincerely,
Erica Sohl
Danville, VT

From: ehbaur@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Erick Baur](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 8:43:43 PM

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Sincerely,
Erick Baur
Burlington, VT

From: erin.buckwalter@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Erin Buckwalter](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 6:18:05 PM

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Sincerely,
Erin Buckwalter
Starksboro, VT

From: cestavt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Esther Mesler](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 8:52:38 AM

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Sincerely,
Esther Mesler
White River Junction, VT

From: cestavt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Esther Mesler](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 8:52:38 AM

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Esther Mesler
White River Junction, VT

From: gwhitcom@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Eugene Whitcomb](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Monday, September 1, 2025 7:17:00 AM

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Sincerely,
Eugene Whitcomb
Nashua, NH

From: newhotar@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [F. Corr](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 4:25:58 PM

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Sincerely,
F. Corr
Guilford, VT

From: fbrownie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Faith Brown](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:26:54 PM

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Sincerely,
Faith Brown
Colchester, VT

From: loving.children@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Faith Charity](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 4:00:34 AM

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- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Faith Charity
Burlington, VT

From: goodale5@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [G. Goodale](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:25:58 PM

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Sincerely,
G. Goodale
Rutland, VT

From: hakapops@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Gary Sturgis](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 9:52:22 PM

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Sincerely,
Gary Sturgis
Essex Junction, VT

From: gayleeamend9@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Gaylee Amend](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 4:17:11 PM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Gaylee Amend
Burlington, VT

From: george@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [George Schenk](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 9:10:02 PM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
George Schenk
Warren, VT

From: gloewebel@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Glo Webel](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 7:56:33 AM

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- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. The sooner the better for all of us!!!
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Glo Webel
Johnson, VT

From: epynephryn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Grahame Turner](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:18:46 AM

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Sincerely,
Grahame Turner
White River Junction, VT

From: gregbrown2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Greg Brown](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 4:00:12 AM

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Sincerely,
Greg Brown
Woodstock, VT

From: gregbrown2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Gregory Brown](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 1:55:57 PM

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Sincerely,
Gregory Brown
Woodstock, VT

From: gunnar@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [gunnar sievert](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:58:55 PM

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Sincerely,
gunnar sievert
Shelburne, VT

From: gwendolyn.causer@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Gwendolyn Causer](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 8:22:08 AM

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Sincerely,
Gwendolyn Causer
Burlington, VT

From: hannahregier@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Hannah Regier](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 5:07:43 PM

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Sincerely,
Hannah Regier
Athens, VT

From: kleine_bar@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Heather Gibbs](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:17:54 AM

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Sincerely,
Heather Gibbs
Jericho, VT

From: kjbritt.ocks@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Helen Lons](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 4:01:34 PM

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- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.

You should consider an earlier timeline to get this process moving: 2026 would be much more effective for the environment.

- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default.

The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers and all home owners and home gardeners within 1 mile radius in advance. Many homesteaders use organic gardening methods but are surrounded by industrial-style farms, like myself in Sheldon. We should not be held at the mercy of these mega rich farmers who do not care about environmental damages.

- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried deeply and 1 mile from drinking water wells, wetlands, ponds, and other vulnerable areas.

- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.

- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying. You should consider a minimum 1-mile radius. Aerial applications are inherently sloppy practices and should be closely monitored if the State really cares.

Sincerely,
Helen Lons
Franklin, VT

From: necsis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Hervey Scudder](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:31:36 PM

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Sincerely,
Hervey Scudder
Bellows Falls, VT

From: tippetth@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Holly Tippetth](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:19:32 AM

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Sincerely,
Holly Tippetth
Vergennes, VT

From: mazzaschottstaedt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ingrid Mazza-Schottstädt](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:41:49 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Ingrid Mazza-Schottstädt
Woodstock, VT

From: janebelljenkins@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jane Bell](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Sunday, August 31, 2025 10:14:23 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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Sincerely,
Jane Bell
Wilmington, VT

From: janed358@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jane Deblasio](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 3:52:36 PM

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Sincerely,
Jane Deblasio
Rutland, VT

From: janed358@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jane Deblasio](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 3:52:36 PM

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Sincerely,
Jane Deblasio
Rutland, VT

From: jkahn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Janet Kahn](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 8:38:09 AM

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Sincerely,
Janet Kahn
Burlington, VT

From: mday2837@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Janice Day](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 7:15:45 PM

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Sincerely,
Janice Day
Shaftsbury, VT

From: janmccann68@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Janice McCann](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 3:54:54 PM

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Sincerely,
Janice McCann
Rochester, VT

From: jst05489@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Janice SolekTefft](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 12:34:48 PM

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Sincerely,
Janice SolekTefft
Underhill, VT

From: janmccann68@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Janice Y](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 6:57:51 PM

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Sincerely,
Janice Y
Rochester, VT

From: janism@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Janis Murcic](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:48:41 PM

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Thank you for your attention to these concerns of Vermont bird lovers!

Sincerely,
Janis Murcic
Hartland, VT

From: mwongera@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jason Crooks](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 3:05:53 PM

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Thank you for being a voice for the voiceless.

Sincerely,
Jason Crooks
Underhill, VT

From: kiralis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jeff Kiralis](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 4:11:44 PM

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Sincerely,
Jeff Kiralis
Fairlee, VT

From: jjapple88@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jeffrey J Allen](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 8:39:21 PM

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Sincerely,
Jeffrey J Allen
South Burlington, VT

From: jbladd@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jeffrey Ladd](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 8:02:37 PM

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Sincerely,
Jeffrey Ladd
Chester, VT

From: jlgarber1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jennifer Garber](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:18:51 PM

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Our birds and pollinators are very important to our ecosystem and unfortunately are very sensitive to neonic toxicity. I hope you will keep this in mind as you draft the new regulations for their use.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Garber
Waterbury Center, VT

From: Jenngoodell473@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jennifer Goodell](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 1:17:52 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful pesticides.

I certainly agree we need to protect our crops from invasive insects and fungus so we all have a food source but it needs to be done in a responsible way not just to protect birds but humans as well.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Goodell
Wilmington, VT

From: jennifer.neil77@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jennifer Neil](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:32:40 AM

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Neil
New Haven, VT

From: jenniferskinder@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jennifer Skinder](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 6:11:24 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Skinder
Burlington, VT

From: j.grader201@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jenny Grader](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:08:06 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

Save our environment!

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.

The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.

- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.

- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Jenny Grader
Manchester, VT

From: Jessbell25@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jess Bell](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Saturday, September 6, 2025 7:58:17 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Jess Bell
Hinesburg, VT

From: jkrauseherron@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jessi Krause Herron](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:30:39 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Jessi Krause Herron
Bellows Falls, VT

From: butterflyroshi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [jessica crotty](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 7:06:32 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
jessica crotty
Cabot, VT

From: jessd@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jessica Dambach](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 3:30:46 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Jessica Dambach
Morrisville, VT

From: jhfish4@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jessica Fish](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 22, 2025 7:45:53 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Jessica Fish
Burlington, VT

From: blisswouldbegood@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jill B Burkette](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 4:24:26 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- *****Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.***** This is all counter productive. Stop the killing. Once their gone their gone!!! I say NO!

Sincerely,
Jill B Burkette
Wallingford, VT

From: DINERSAURS@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [JOAN CORMIER](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:39:41 AM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
JOAN CORMIER
Pittsford, VT

From: kittiwake_3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jo-Ann Doyle](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 5:49:56 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Jo-Ann Doyle
North Ferrisburgh, VT

From: shipley@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Joanna Shipley](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 4:47:36 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

Greetings,

I'm writing to say that I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Joanna Shipley
Ripton, VT

From: jodiebeecher@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jodie Beecher](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:35:08 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I want to express support for Act 182, which protects our birds, pollinators, and the environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides.

For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I am asking the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

-- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat is not enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

-- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not enough. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.

-- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. We need disposal rules to protect drinking water, human health, wildlife health, and our environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far away from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

-- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic use on ornamentals often involves blooming plants that are appealing to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.

-- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule needs to be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029 (not in 2031 as the draft rule states).

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Jodie Beecher
Essex Junction, VT

From: jejdube@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Joel Dube](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:00:49 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Joel Dube
Williston, VT

From: johanna.woodbury@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Johanna Zalneraitis](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 2:29:37 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Johanna Zalneraitis
Brattleboro, VT

From: jon@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jon Graham](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 1:56:12 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Jon Graham
Rochester, VT

From: jrhaffly@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [joseph haffly](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:18:53 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
joseph haffly
Isle La Motte, VT

From: pheralicious@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Judith Hazelton](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 29, 2025 6:29:24 AM

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Sincerely,
Judith Hazelton
Bennington, VT

From: judyndonofrio@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Judy Donofrio](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 1:19:41 AM

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Sincerely,
Judy Donofrio
South Burlington, VT

From: judrees@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Judy Rees](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 5:08:20 AM

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Sincerely,
Judy Rees
North Hartland, VT

From: jcking552@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Julia King](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Sunday, August 24, 2025 12:13:21 AM

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Sincerely,
Julia King
Vergennes, VT

From: jaugie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Julia Morrison-Augostino](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 8:11:52 PM

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Sincerely,
Julia Morrison-Augostino
Winooski, VT

From: jsp@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Julianna Parker](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Monday, August 25, 2025 7:57:23 AM

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Sincerely,
Julianna Parker
Addison, VT

From: evartsk@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kara Evarts](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 14, 2025 7:53:17 AM

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Sincerely,
Kara Evarts
Landgrove, VT

From: karen.m.bourque@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Karen Bourque](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 11:30:45 AM

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Sincerely,
Karen Bourque
Fairlee, VT

From: kshapiro1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Karen Shapiro](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:06:15 PM

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Sincerely,
Karen Shapiro
Putney, VT

From: comforthippies802@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Karen Sheppard](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 5:43:14 PM

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Thank You for your consideration of this very important issue. It is extremely sad that our wildlife are being affected by climate change and construction.

Sincerely,
Karen Sheppard
Burlington, VT

From: ravenbadger@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Karen Starr](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 11:07:57 AM

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Sincerely,
Karen Starr
Plainfield, VT

From: higheressence@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Karen Vincent](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 2:21:50 PM

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Sincerely,
Karen Vincent
Burlington, VT

From: Conslkat@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kat Consler](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 29, 2025 12:55:31 AM

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Sincerely,
Kat Consler
Fairfax, VT

From: kathleenlmoore@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kat Moore](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Sunday, August 24, 2025 10:41:51 PM

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Sincerely,
Kat Moore
Montpelier, VT

From: kgardnergoetz@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kate Goetz](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Sunday, August 10, 2025 11:43:59 PM

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Sincerely,
Kate Goetz
West Burke, VT

From: faunesiegel@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kate Kenner](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 5:07:11 PM

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-----Pollinators are small and thus vulnerable to the effects of neonic pesticides. It would not only hurt farmers and thus people, but all beings should have the right to survive and thrive safely as a matter of principle. We need birds, bees, and other wildlife and they need to be kept safe I urge you to protect pollinators and switch to safer alternatives.---

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.

- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.

- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.

- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Kate Kenner
Guilford, VT

From: katemahoneyvt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [kate mahoney](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:04:32 PM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
kate mahoney
Underhill, VT

From: katesolisti@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kate Solisti](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 12:07:41 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

We can and MUST do this!

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Kate Solisti
Rutland, VT

From: katmack802@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [katharina mack](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 5:18:18 AM

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I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
katharina mack
Washington, VT

From: katharinebritton@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Katharine Britton](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 7:31:59 PM

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I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Katharine Britton
Norwich, VT

From: orakay@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kathleen Flynn-Barnett](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 10:38:39 AM

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Sincerely,
Kathleen Flynn-Barnett
Lake Forest, IL

From: laughingkat57@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kathleen Hurley](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 7:58:56 PM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Hurley
Hinesburg, VT

From: krswhalen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kathryn Whalen](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, September 3, 2025 2:21:02 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Kathryn Whalen
Hartford, VT

From: kwklutz@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Katie Whittaker](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:55:40 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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Sincerely,
Katie Whittaker
Stowe, VT

From: Kay.Hopper@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kay Hopper](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 29, 2025 12:43:37 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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Sincerely,
Kay Hopper
Montpelier, VT

From: kleeallen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [KELLI LEE-ALLEN](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:15:03 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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Sincerely,
KELLI LEE-ALLEN
Vernon, VT

From: kelly.j.hyson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kelly Hyson](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 7:47:36 PM

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Sincerely,
Kelly Hyson
White River Junction, VT

From: vtkelly2001@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kelly Wellings](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Sunday, August 24, 2025 9:51:15 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

As a volunteer with wildlife rehabilitation and a neighbor to two industrial dairy farms in Addison Vermont who has seen a drastic decline in bird and insect populations over the last 25 years, I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Kelly Wellings
Vergennes, VT

From: sheldon20008@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ken Kornfield](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 4:04:02 PM

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Sincerely,
Ken Kornfield
Brattleboro, VT

From: kenlesem@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ken Lesem](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:15:46 PM

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Sincerely,
Ken Lesem
Burlington, VT

From: kenrobotti@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ken Robotti](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 7:46:09 PM

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Sincerely,
Ken Robotti
Brownsville, VT

From: kendall.frost@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kendall Frost](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Monday, August 18, 2025 4:04:09 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Kendall Frost
Charlotte, VT

From: vancottkenneth@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kenneth Van Cott](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 9:15:03 PM

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Sincerely,
Kenneth Van Cott
Brattleboro, VT

From: kori.feener@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kori Young](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:12:51 AM

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Sincerely,
Kori Young
West Topsham, VT

From: bhakti74@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kristie Devost](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 7:00:15 AM

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Sincerely,
Kristie Devost
Brattleboro, VT

From: 4vtcumplings@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kristin Bair-Cummings](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 11:12:00 AM

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Sincerely,
Kristin Bair-Cummings
Huntington, VT

From: avianvt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kristin LaPointe](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 7:06:56 PM

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Sincerely,
Kristin LaPointe
Essex Junction, VT

From: obscure_offsite_3t@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kristina Doyle](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 7:49:33 AM

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Sincerely,
Kristina Doyle
Randolph, VT

From: kwinnicki@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kristine S Winnicki](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:59:43 PM

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Sincerely,
Kristine S Winnicki
Chester, VT

From: kristykurtspengler@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kristy Spengler](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Monday, September 1, 2025 9:35:57 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Kristy Spengler
Colchester, VT

From: lani_1121@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lani Nichols](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Monday, August 25, 2025 8:04:51 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Lani Nichols
Brandon, VT

From: lauramarystone@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Laura Stone](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:31:49 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

Please review the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which purports to protect birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides.

Please consider immediate implementation to prevent toxicity harm and to properly protect wildlife and wilderness. If you have further ideas for remediation of harm and for effective crop protection that is sustainable and clean feel free to legislate solutions. Thank you for your valuable time.

One key suggestion also:

- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Thanks again,

Sincerely,
Laura Stone
Middlebury, VT

From: laurel@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Laurel A Copeland](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 5:42:06 AM

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- Correct the timeline for protections.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production.
- Prohibit aerial applications.

Sincerely,
Laurel A Copeland
Brattleboro, VT

From: laurie_veatch@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Laurelyn Veatch](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 2:22:31 PM

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Sincerely,
Laurelyn Veatch
Plainfield, VT

From: lauren.giannullo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lauren Giannullo](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 10:20:49 AM

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Sincerely,
Lauren Giannullo
Shelburne, VT

From: marshallrule@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Laurie R Marshall](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 8:34:09 PM

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Sincerely,
Laurie R Marshall
Woodstock, VT

From: ginjerblu@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Leah Csiszar](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:47:02 AM

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This is an important issue that we need to prevent. When we make a commitment to our native species, we increase the health of our environment and reduce the need for chemical spraying. Protecting our birds and pollinators is essential for a health ecosystem that will balance itself.

Sincerely,
Leah Csiszar
Benson, VT

From: llinney2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Leona Linney](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 6:26:20 AM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Leona Linney
West Dover, VT

From: lesleypollitt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lesley Pollitt](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 8:48:28 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Lesley Pollitt
West Halifax, VT

From: libbyweiland@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Libby Weiland](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 7:43:19 PM

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Sincerely,
Libby Weiland
Winooski, VT

From: clipclop3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Linda Blais](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 8:27:36 PM

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Sincerely,
Linda Blais
Reading, VT

From: rolin4683tb@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Linda Carpentr](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:32:00 PM

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Sincerely,
Linda Carpentr
Enosburg Falls, VT

From: linda@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Linda Gilpin](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 4:43:19 PM

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Sincerely,
Linda Gilpin
Burlington, VT

From: graveslmj@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Linda Graves](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 3:30:55 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

When neonic pesticides are used to deter insects on crops, they are also very harmful to birds and pollinators. Even low doses can cause problems for songbirds including weight loss, reproduction issues and difficulties with navigation during migration. I'm writing to ask that you ban the use of these pesticides and instead make a change to safer alternatives.

Sincerely,
Linda Graves
Shelburne, VT

From: Indashome@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Linda Satter](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 2:03:39 PM

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Sincerely,
Linda Satter
Manchester Center, VT

From: shatney@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Linda Shatney](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 5:26:28 PM

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Sincerely,
Linda Shatney
Craftsbury Common, VT

From: lwills51@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [linda wills](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 9:50:19 PM

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Sincerely,
linda wills
Bellows Falls, VT

From: lgomberg@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lisa Gomberg](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 7:07:49 PM

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Sincerely,
Lisa Gomberg
Northfield, VT

From: lnjablow@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lisa Jablow](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:18:46 AM

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Sincerely,
Lisa Jablow
Brattleboro, VT

From: lpvermont@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [lisa paone](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 12:04:22 PM

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Sincerely,
Lisa Paone

Sincerely,
lisa paone
Jericho Center, VT

From: liz.zundel@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Liz Zundel](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 4:12:41 PM

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Sincerely,
Liz Zundel
Barre, VT

From: grace_kraft@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lori Kraft](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 10:55:12 AM

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Sincerely,
Lori Kraft
Swanton, VT

From: simonmeister@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lorie Brock](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:02:43 PM

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Sincerely,
Lorie Brock
Bomoseen, VT

From: sbbs5@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lorraine Healey](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 1:59:54 PM

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Sincerely,
Lorraine Healey
Waterbury Center, VT

From: knittens@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Luanne Sberna](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:10:37 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

If we don't take these actions now, it may be too late in the future and wreak havoc on our food supply and ecosystem.

Sincerely,
Luanne Sberna
Burlington, VT

From: lydiao2020@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lydia Ouvaroff](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:15:02 AM

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Sincerely,
Lydia Ouvaroff
Ludlow, VT

From: lynovick@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [lynette a novick](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 9:14:18 PM

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Sincerely,
lynette a novick
Arlington, VT

From: lynn.attwood@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lynn Attwood](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Saturday, August 9, 2025 2:37:30 PM

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Sincerely,
Lynn Attwood
Williston, VT

From: jongdecker@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [LYNNE DE JONG-DECKER](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 9:51:10 AM

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Sincerely,
LYNNE DE JONG-DECKER
Saxtons River, VT

From: lynne@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [lynne hadley](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 2:22:37 PM

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Sincerely,
lynne hadley
Tunbridge, VT

From: mabroussard94@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Macie Broussard](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 10:24:34 AM

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Sincerely,
Macie Broussard
Brookfield, VT

From: snorkel@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Macy Moulton](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 2:22:35 PM

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Sincerely,
Macy Moulton
Waitsfield, VT

From: vtmaggie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Maggie Gilmore](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:48:40 AM

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This is important life-saving legislation. Please stand up and support life and against the encroaching fascism and loss of our democracy.

Sincerely,
Maggie Gilmore
Randolph, VT

From: arntl@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marcia Liotard](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 1:59:53 PM

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Sincerely,
Marcia Liotard
Starksboro, VT

From: margaret.fowle@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Margaret Fowle](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 6:57:00 AM

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Sincerely,
Margaret Fowle
Huntington, VT

From: mdholdenhyde@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Margaret Holden](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 11:36:07 AM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat could be too narrow to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Margaret Holden
Grand Isle, VT

From: mcantor@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [margery cantor](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 8:16:07 PM

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Sincerely,
margery cantor
Norwich, VT

From: itch@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Margo Hickey](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:54:13 AM

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Sincerely,
Margo Hickey
Hartland, VT

From: bowdenmargot@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Margot Bowden](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 5:00:26 PM

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Sincerely,
Margot Bowden
Middlebury, VT

From: chichibaret@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Maria Barrett](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:53:40 PM

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Sincerely,
Maria Barrett
Richmond, VT

From: mwalshvt1980@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marianne Walsh](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:23:53 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Marianne Walsh
Springfield, VT

From: marewest13@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marianne West](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 4:18:10 PM

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Sincerely,
Marianne West
Middletown Springs, VT

From: maleca333@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marie L Caduto](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Monday, August 11, 2025 12:03:29 PM

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Sincerely,
Marie L Caduto
Reading, VT

From: villalibbymarion@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marion Villalibby-Hendrix](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 11:06:55 AM

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Sincerely,
Marion Villalibby-Hendrix
Colchester, VT

From: marlenahughes52@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marlene Hughes](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 6:19:20 AM

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Sincerely,
Marlene Hughes
Newport, VT

From: sheskivt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marsha Abramo](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 4:42:38 PM

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Sincerely,
Marsha Abramo
Bristol, VT

From: billnmarsha@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marsha Cox](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 6:22:37 AM

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Sincerely,
Marsha Cox
Morrisville, VT

From: mjbpfieffer@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [martha pfeiffer](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 6:48:57 PM

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Sincerely,
martha pfeiffer
Dorset, VT

From: maryholland505@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mary Holland](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 2:22:30 PM

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Sincerely,
Mary Holland
Shelburne, VT

From: maryfranceslopez@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mary Lopez](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 5:56:39 PM

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Sincerely,
Mary Lopez
S Woodstock, VT

From: memet3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mary Metakos](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 5:51:07 AM

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Sincerely,
Mary Metakos
Montpelier, VT

From: maridif07@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mary Tardif](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 8:20:16 PM

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Sincerely,
Mary Tardif
Greensboro Bend, VT

From: maryanner54@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Maryanne Roberts](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:13:29 PM

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Sincerely,
Maryanne Roberts
Lincoln, VT

From: marylou.vt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [maryLmarcussen marcussen](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 8:39:24 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

Dear members of the Agriculture Dept,

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Sincerely,
maryLmarcussen marcussen
Williston, VT

From: matthallahan1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Matt Hallahan](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Tuesday, August 26, 2025 4:28:23 PM

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Sincerely,
Matt Hallahan
Colchester, VT

From: MLake701@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Maureen Lake](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 2:50:05 PM

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Sincerely,
Maureen Lake
Swanton, VT

From: mayhewbergman@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Megan Bergman](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Saturday, August 9, 2025 9:08:48 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Megan Bergman
Shaftsbury, VT

From: mprattvt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Megan Pratt](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 9:20:55 AM

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Sincerely,
Megan Pratt
Winooski, VT

From: meghanrose956@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Meghan Lee-Hall](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, September 11, 2025 10:03:30 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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Sincerely,
Meghan Lee-Hall
Essex Junction, VT

From: melissur@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Melissa Lee](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 1:05:51 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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Sincerely,
Melissa Lee
Brattleboro, VT

From: zeta369@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Melissa Wales](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Monday, September 1, 2025 2:36:26 PM

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Sincerely,
Melissa Wales
Saxtons River, VT

From: mforcini@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Forcinito](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:19:21 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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Sincerely,
Michael Forcinito
Burlington, VT

From: Aspensabre@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Lindley](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:21:31 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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Sincerely,
Michael Lindley
Wells, VT

From: mtq72@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Quinn](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:26:36 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

In addition to my agreement with the statements below, I suggest this: Make efforts to convince consumers of agricultural and orchard food products that accepting a higher threshold of insects and insect parts in our food supply is worth it to preserve the beneficial arthropod population diversity upon which our food supply depends and which is an essential component to our wild ecosystem strength and survival, both terrestrial and aquatic. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Michael Quinn
Windsor, VT

From: macphearson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Robinson](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 12:59:55 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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Sincerely,
Michael Robinson
Milton, VT

From: woodhous@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Wilner](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 2:21:50 PM

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Sincerely,
Michael Wilner
Putney, VT

From: michelemiz@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michele Mizejewski](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:13:27 PM

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Sincerely,
Michele Mizejewski
South Burlington, VT

From: mmorey1025@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michelle Bates](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Saturday, August 9, 2025 7:49:09 AM

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Sincerely,
Michelle Bates
Wells, VT

From: discoforce@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michelle Force](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Saturday, August 9, 2025 7:00:25 PM

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Sincerely,
Michelle Force
Fairfax, VT

From: michellerathvt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michelle Rath](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 9:01:17 PM

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Sincerely,
Michelle Rath
Williston, VT

From: mikefenton06@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mike Fenton](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 3:49:10 PM

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Sincerely,
Mike Fenton
Bomoseen, VT

From: mimatip@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mima Tipper](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 1:15:25 PM

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Sincerely,
Mima Tipper
South Hero, VT

From: mjphillips@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [mj phillips](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:01:57 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
mj phillips
Putney, VT

From: mbidwell@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Molly Bidwell](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 7:50:23 PM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Molly Bidwell
Bristol, VT

From: mollydshimko@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Molly Shimko](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:17:40 AM

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I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Molly Shimko
Quechee, VT

From: nan.cochran@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [NAN COCHRAN](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 9:39:17 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
NAN COCHRAN
White River Junction, VT

From: nancyhcase@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nancy Case](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:34:39 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

Dear VAA, I am a member of Audubon and have been made aware by Audubon Vermont of legislation Act 182 passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. Being very concerned about the decline of bird and pollinator populations nationwide, I urge you to adopt the strong rules outlined below in implementing this new law.

Kind regards,
Nancy Case
Thetford Center, Vermont

I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Nancy Case
Thetford Center, VT

From: nmrossbabineau@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nancy Ross-Babineau](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 8:33:59 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Nancy Ross-Babineau
Burlington, VT

From: dvelle@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nanette Post](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 21, 2025 6:17:19 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Nanette Post
Waterbury, VT

From: naomi.bindman@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Naomi Bindman](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:14:39 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Naomi Bindman
N Bennington, VT

From: neil.buckley@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Neil Buckley](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:11:38 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

We can't afford to wait on these regulations and they need to be as strict as possible. These pesticides are indiscriminately lethal, cause carnage among non-target species and need to be taken out of our environment. The sheer stupidity of continuing to use them is breathtaking.

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to make the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit all aerial applications of neonicotinoid pesticides. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat is completely inadequate to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Neil Buckley
Colchester, VT

From: chambersn99@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nick Chambers](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Monday, August 11, 2025 3:52:18 PM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Nick Chambers
White River Junction, VT

From: nicole@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nicole Gilbert-Obrien](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 5:57:16 PM

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Sincerely,
Nicole Gilbert-Obrien
Hinesburg, VT

From: eastgsdvt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [p souza](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 1:51:48 PM

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Sincerely,
p souza
Bennington, VT

From: pgnipper@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [pam Kerstner](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 6:26:48 PM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
pam Kerstner
Rutland, VT

From: pnalefski@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Pam Nalefski](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:53:01 PM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Pam Nalefski
Pawlet, VT

From: p.tworig@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Pam Tworig](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 22, 2025 3:32:14 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Pam Tworig
Stamford, VT

From: pamela.yeh@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Pamela Yeh](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 4:28:41 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Pamela Yeh
Sharon, VT

From: pat@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Pat Gahagan](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 5:42:51 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Pat Gahagan
East Calais, VT

From: ppmotch@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Patricia Motch](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:05:52 PM

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Sincerely,
Patricia Motch
Shelburne, VT

From: paultsteph@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Paul Stephens](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 12:25:05 PM

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Sincerely,
Paul Stephens
Huntington, VT

From: ewetopia@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Paula Kelley](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 4:28:46 PM

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Sincerely,
Paula Kelley
Huntington, VT

From: pmanzi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Paula Manzi](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 5:21:33 PM

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Sincerely,
Paula Manzi
West Charleston, VT

From: peetpearson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Peet Pearson](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 7:22:39 PM

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Sincerely,
Peet Pearson
Vernshire, VT

From: pjajod5@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Peggy Carlisle](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:33:40 PM

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Sincerely,
Peggy Carlisle
Sutton, VT

From: meowvet1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Peggy Larson](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 3:37:56 PM

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Sincerely,
Peggy Larson
Williston, VT

From: petepatrick418@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Pete Patrick](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 22, 2025 4:17:49 PM

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Sincerely,
Pete Patrick
Burlington, VT

From: nedrob39@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Peter Borden](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 1:47:25 PM

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Sincerely,
Peter Borden
Fair Haven, VT

From: phadeka@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Peter Hadeka](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 12:13:26 PM

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I am also a beekeeper and am very concerned with this pesticide. I feel it is as bad as DDT was. Please BAN all use.

Sincerely,
Peter Hadeka
Castleton, VT

From: dluquer@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Peter Luquer](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 1:33:01 PM

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Sincerely,
Peter Luquer
Hartland Four Corners, VT

From: fofao@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Peter Patterson](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:33:09 PM

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Sincerely,
Peter Patterson
Sudbury, VT

From: petra_oneill@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Petra O'Neill](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 6:19:47 PM

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Sincerely,
Petra O'Neill
Pittsford, VT

From: Lphilvt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Phil Phillips](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 21, 2025 3:41:56 PM

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Sincerely,
Phil Phillips
Jericho, VT

From: bluerider8@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Philip Wagner](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 2:31:59 PM

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Sincerely,
Philip Wagner
Burlington, VT

From: pmack5062@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Prudence MacKinney](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 4:12:37 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

Dear Agency of Agriculture,

I am writing to express strong support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Best regards,
Prudence MacKinney,
Brattleboro, VT

Sincerely,
Prudence MacKinney
Brattleboro, VT

From: rdwwoof@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Randall D White](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:58:18 AM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Randall D White
North Thetford, VT

From: rlapollo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Raymond Lapollo](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 12:01:21 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Raymond Lapollo
Brookline, VT

From: r.fitzhenry@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Richard Fitzhenry](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 7:12:36 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Richard Fitzhenry
Hyde Park, VT

From: rsjmd9@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [richard jackson](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 4:53:15 PM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
richard jackson
Shelburne, VT

From: wallace.rochelle182@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rochelle Wallace](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 11:02:19 AM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Rochelle Wallace
Saint Albans, VT

From: woodchuck37@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ronald Krupp](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:02:49 PM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Ronald Krupp
S Burlington, VT

From: roospin@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Roo Slagle](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:52:20 AM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Roo Slagle
Belvidere Center, VT

From: rosenariesd18@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rosemarie Spinelli](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 2:22:33 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Rosemarie Spinelli
East Ryegate, VT

From: rowan.elessar@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rowan Elessar](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Tuesday, August 26, 2025 6:07:14 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Rowan Elessar
Winooski, VT

From: panglepugh@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sally Shaw](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 9:20:33 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Sally Shaw
Middletown Springs, VT

From: 3curley3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Samuel Wolf](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:57:48 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Samuel Wolf
Newport Center, VT

From: showe_305@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sandra Howell](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:04:30 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

Please know that I support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 -- which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I strpngly urge the Agency to consider the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

**** Correct the timeline for protections.** The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029 -- not 2031 as the draft rule states.

**** Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.** The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices **are not** sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides will not continue to be used by default. Vermont should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted -- such as requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.

**** Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds.** Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas -- or burned.

**** Address high-risk uses in nursery production.** Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants (**a KNOWN high-risk exposure route for pollinators**) it is not clear whether the draft rules address this issue. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees: the rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.

**** Prohibit aerial applications.** A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat **is not** sufficient to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Thank you for reading and considering my statement.

Sincerely,
Sandra Howell
Montpelier, VT

From: sandrews3119@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sara Andrews](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 9:15:14 AM

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Sincerely,
Sara Andrews
Shelburne, VT

From: spedit@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sara Evangelos](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 8:16:27 PM

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Sincerely,
Sara Evangelos
Hubbardston, MA

From: sbradleymoran@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sara Moran](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 6:42:55 PM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Assist growers in finding new methods or alternatives to protect crops. Perhaps provide financial incentives to use alternative methods.
- please consider checking term ramifications of losing our pollinators. Please be assertive in your efforts.

Sincerely,
Sara Moran
Williston, VT

From: woodruff218@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sara Woodruff](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 7:10:25 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Sara Woodruff
Middlebury, VT

From: swsgilmore@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sarah Gilmore](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 9:14:41 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Sarah Gilmore
Jericho, VT

From: sarah.hooghuis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sarah Hooghuis](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Monday, August 11, 2025 8:51:03 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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Sincerely,
Sarah Hooghuis
Burlington, VT

From: Sarah.Nilsen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sarah Nilsen](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 6:03:26 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Sarah Nilsen
Shelburne, VT

From: sschmidt394@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [SARAH SCHMIDT](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 4:03:43 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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Sincerely,
SARAH SCHMIDT
Hinesburg, VT

From: slawhi520@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sarah White](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:10:18 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

We've lived on a parcel of land in VT for 12 years that we are slowly populating with gardens and fruit trees and natives. We have lived on and off in VT for 25 years and can only say...we have more sporadic pollination, less healthy pollinator populations every year. We need to control Big Business. It is running humans to extinction in its efforts towards profit! We strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Sarah White
Hartland, VT

From: morkie1955@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Scott Welch](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Saturday, August 9, 2025 8:56:55 AM

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Sincerely,
Scott Welch
Springfield, VT

From: ferrerselina@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Selina Ferrer](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 11:15:59 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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It's the responsibility of lawmakers to think beyond the obvious and protect the long term interests of the state. Please consider these changes part of taking on that responsibility.

Sincerely,
Selina Ferrer
Plymouth, VT

From: frishkin@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Shana Witkin](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:16:08 AM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Shana Witkin
Richmond, VT

From: sharonrogers0713@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sharon Rogers](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 9:47:02 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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Sincerely,
Sharon Rogers
Wilder, VT

From: beartownsmac@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sheila Mckenna](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 4:45:58 PM

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- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. Why can't this be banned NOW? We are already experiencing fewer insects, bats, birds, frogs, deer and all the creatures needed for a thriving environment.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
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Sincerely,
Sheila Mckenna
Arlington, VT

From: sheshakerct@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sheryl Shaker](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:30:49 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I grew up in Vermont and moved back “home” two years ago. The state’s natural beauty, wildlife and respect for the environment were a large part of the reason for my return.

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Sheryl Shaker

Sincerely,
Sheryl Shaker
South Burlington, VT

From: littleredhen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sheryl Smith](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 6:32:29 PM

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Sincerely,
Sheryl Smith
Perkinsville, VT

From: rjsj8784@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Shirley Johnson](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 29, 2025 2:37:47 PM

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-I am sending this letter because of my love of nature and Vermont's beauty all around us. It is frightening to me that in my own lifetime, I am seeing so many changes caused by human interventions with harmful consequences. Please correct the awful results caused by Neonic's.

Sincerely,
Shirley Johnson
Shelburne, VT

From: MC900FT@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Simon Woodrup](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 1:56:41 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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Sincerely,
Simon Woodrup
Swanton, VT

From: siobhano39grady@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Siobhan OGrady](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:01:15 PM

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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Siobhan OGrady
Woodstock, VT

From: spencerogden23@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Spencer Ogden](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 12:58:51 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Spencer Ogden
Dorset, VT

From: mobrown1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [stephan Maurath](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 8:47:13 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
stephan Maurath
Chester, VT

From: stephanieb638@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Stephanie Bourdelle](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 9:07:11 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Bourdelle
Sheffield, VT

From: sinoakes@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Stephanie Noakes](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:41:56 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Noakes
Colchester, VT

From: sdybas@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Stephen Dybas](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 1:56:09 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Stephen Dybas
South Burlington, VT

From: maplebird@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Steve Hagenbuch](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:16:53 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Steve Hagenbuch
Waterbury Center, VT

From: drsteveberry@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Steven Berry](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:37:55 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I am counting on the legislation passed in 2024 (Act 182) to truly protect our natural habitat particularly our pollinators and birds and soil and water that we depend upon. Currently, we are all being killed off through the use of harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides- some more quickly than others. We have in the past experienced “silent springs” due to the use of DDT. We have never recovered fully from this but have instead added different but equally or more deadly pesticides and herbicides into the environment. I urge the Agency to ensure our safety and that of birds and bees making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Steven Berry
Manchester, VT

From: steved518@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Steven DiCicco](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:41:12 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Steven DiCicco
Hyde Park, VT

From: smcdermet1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Stewart McDermet](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:58:42 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Stewart McDermet
W Brattleboro, VT

From: mamasuepeace@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sue and John Morris](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 1:59:39 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

We strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. Without pollinators, we all die. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, we urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Sue and John Morris
Marshfield, VT

From: tragedy6.anthers@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sue Dillon](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:04:28 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Sue Dillon
Waitsfield, VT

From: brown_susan@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Susan Brown](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, September 5, 2025 8:15:46 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

HI strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
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- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Susan Brown
Essex Junction, VT

From: susandarnell@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [susan darnell](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 5:21:07 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. The rate of honey production has dropped from 100 pounds to 65 pounds per hive. These chemicals have already been banned by the EU and in neighboring NY. The damage will continue exponentially each year that the regulations are delayed.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance. It's time to recognize that pesticides damage far more than the targeted pest. The health of farmers, other beneficial insects, grazing livestock, and water quality are all negatively impacted.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
susan darnell
South Burlington, VT

From: sbwilliston@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Susan Littlefield](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 7:58:39 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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Sincerely,
Susan Littlefield
Essex Junction, VT

From: sybecklabs@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [susan lybeck](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 14, 2025 8:55:59 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
susan lybeck
Fair Haven, VT

From: wjin76@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Susan McCown](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:41:57 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Susan McCown
South Burlington, VT

From: sneith@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Susan Neith](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 10:09:05 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Susan Neith
Burlington, VT

From: Srandvt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Susan Rand](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 4:58:45 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

Please ban the Use of neonics ASAP! I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. In actuality, this should be done immediately.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices immediately in order to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to END EXEMPTIONS IMMEDIATELY. The risk of continued use of neonics of any form is far greater than the minimal impact to those who support their continues use.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses that otherwise decimate the fragile balance of those pollinators struggling to exist.
- Prohibit aerial applications.

Eliminate the use of ALL neonics immediately before all pollinators are killed by its use. MOVE MORE QUICKLY NOW, while there is still a small window of hope that the balance of the natural world in our state of Vermont could be restored.

Sincerely,
Susan Rand
Ferrisburgh, VT

From: sshea28@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Susan Shea](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:22:22 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I am very concerned about the effect of neonic pesticides on birds and pollinators. The dairy farmers in my area plant many fields with corn, which I understand is grown from treated seeds and leads to pesticide residues in the plant.

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Please do more to protect our vulnerable wildlife.

Sincerely,
Susan Shea
West Brookfield, VT

From: sstock.neela.124@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Susan Stock](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:23:36 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I am a grandparent and I want my grand children to know the beauty of nature, of birds and flowers. I also want them to have healthy pollinated foods. Therefore I am writing to tell you that I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which removes neonics from our environment. This will protect birds and other pollinators. I hope you can consider some changes to your rules to make them more effective.

- the legislation says we need to start in 2029 not 2031 as your rule states. Make this change please.
- make protection for pollinators your primary goal. protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. If growers must use neonic seeds under an exemption they need to make sure that treated seeds are not used simply because they exist or are in storage. You need to also make sure that beekeepers are notified if neonics are used. It will be hard to notify birds and other pollinators however, so stringent rules around preventing birds from alighting on fields in order to protect them. Once people see the cost of keeping birds off they should be willing to get rid of the seeds all together.
- disposing of the seeds is a problem. You need to ensure that unused seeds do not pollute land and drinking water. They need to be buried miles from wells and wetlands and away from any pollinator habitats.
- make sure to add stringent rules to nurseries. This is an area particularly vulnerable to pollinator poisoning. Make sure that doesn't happen.
- don't allow any neonics to be sprayed aerially on anything. A buffer won't cut it. Fix this. .

Sincerely,
Susan Stock
Shelburne, VT

From: slavallee1106@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [susanne lavallee](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 10:25:31 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
susanne lavallee
Colchester, VT

From: iibirdvt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Susanne Wetmore](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:09:31 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Susanne Wetmore
Brandon, VT

From: s.liepmann@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Suzanna Liepmann](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 9:49:11 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Suzanna Liepmann
South Strafford, VT

From: schenck@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Suzanne Schenck](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 6:32:07 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Suzanne Schenck
East Calais, VT

From: sybil.sch@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sybil Schlesinger](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 3:38:44 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Sybil Schlesinger
Moretown, VT

From: s.bergeron65@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Sylvia Bergeron](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Friday, August 8, 2025 12:53:56 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Sylvia Bergeron
Hardwick, VT

From: thaddeus.cooke@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tad Cooke](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:26:40 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

On our family's farm we decreased and stopped planting neonic coated seeds in 2024, and we practice a delayed mow on several of our hay fields where we have bobolinks and eastern meadowlarks nesting. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Tad Cooke
Florence, VT

From: tammyjwalton@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tammy Walton](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Monday, September 1, 2025 5:48:43 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Tammy Walton
Colchester, VT

From: terirobinson8@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Teri Robinson](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 1:10:04 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Teri Robinson
Dummerston, VT

From: catherinecooke@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [The Rev. Catherine Cooke](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:11:55 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. The sooner the better.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
The Rev. Catherine Cooke
Burlington, VT

From: rowe.theresa@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Theresa Rowe](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 3:12:39 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

Vermont's birds and bees are important for the state's economy, including agriculture and tourism. There is strong evidence that neonic pesticides have a negative and harmful effect. I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Theresa Rowe
Essex, VT

From: purpletherese@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Therese Marcy](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 1:28:53 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

To whom it may concern,

I agree with the statement of this letter and cannot state it any better.

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Therese Marcy
Guilford, VT

From: fourthriver@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Thomas Carroll](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 5:07:32 PM

Be cautious about the following email..it has been identified as possible spam for the following reasons:

Unusual Sender

Unusual Reply To

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Sincerely,
Thomas Carroll
Burlington, VT

From: tmd913@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Thomas DeBoni](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:54:04 AM

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Sincerely,
Thomas DeBoni
Enfield, NH

From: tomgriffith1051@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Thomas Griffith](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 11:13:29 AM

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Sincerely,
Thomas Griffith
Putney, VT

From: tomcate360@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tom Cate](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 6:52:18 PM

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Sincerely,
Tom Cate
Montpelier, VT

From: thargy1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tom Hargy](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 1:41:54 PM

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Tom Hargy
Fairfax, VT

From: tlbaptista@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tony Baptista](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 9:46:51 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024. It's obvious to everyone - pesticides are reducing insect populations, many insectivores (birds, bats, you name it) populations are plummeting, and citizens are not getting healthier. Please help do the obvious, and let's eliminate the most toxic of the herbicides/pesticides.

Thank you.

Tony Baptista
Barnet, VT

Sincerely,
Tony Baptista
Barnet, VT

From: nessa.kranz@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Vanessa Kranz](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 12:03:15 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Vanessa Kranz
Randolph, VT

From: vanessajeauvincent@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Vanessa Vincent](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 2:12:28 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Vanessa Vincent
Saint Johnsbury, VT

From: vickischwab55@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Vicki Schwab](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 21, 2025 10:24:01 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states. We are already facing losses in bird species and need to take action sooner than later
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
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Sincerely,
Vicki Schwab
Milton, VT

From: vicky.viens@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Vicky Viens](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 4:37:46 PM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

Air application should be banned. There is no control of air currents in Vermont. They shift frequently. If it is allowed, the buffer should be 500 feet and that may not be enough. Also an independent observer should be present for all spraying.

And

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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Sincerely,
Vicky Viens
Waterbury, VT

From: vclarke@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Virginia Clarke](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 4:15:48 PM

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Sincerely,
Virginia Clarke
Richmond, VT

From: lizorjim@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [virginia foster](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 12:34:47 PM

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Sincerely,
virginia foster
Charlotte, VT

From: paleshadespaint@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Wayne Hallstrom](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:55:38 PM

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Sincerely,
Wayne Hallstrom
Williston, VT

From: wendysrowe@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Wendy Rowe](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 1:56:21 PM

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Sincerely,
Wendy Rowe
North Ferrisburgh, VT

From: ww.business@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [William Wright](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Saturday, September 6, 2025 11:20:52 AM

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Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

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Sincerely,
William Wright
Milton, VT

From: ptigris73@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Willow Hecht](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025 3:28:06 PM

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I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

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- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Willow Hecht
Burlington, VT

From: akrb@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Adele Boch](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please strengthen Act 182 to Protect VT's Birds and Other Wildlife
Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 5:02:49 PM

[You don't often get email from akrb@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Dear Vermont Agency of Agriculture,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024, which protects birds, pollinators, and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted, like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, wildlife, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.

Sincerely,
Adele Boch
West Newbury, VT

From: [Annie D'Alton](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Advocating for Act 182
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 8:39:17 PM

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EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed rule no. 25P031, Best Management Practices for the Use of Neonicotinoid Treated Article Seeds and Neonicotinoid Pesticides. I strongly supported the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and aquatic ecosystems from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides.

I am a volunteer for the Lake Champlain Committee, monitoring for cyanobacteria, invasive species and marine debris. I have lived in Burlington since coming to UVM for college in 1977, then staying after finishing a graduate program in Botany. The health of the natural ecosystem is vital to all species in the food chain, from microorganisms to humans. In my view, a healthy ecosystem takes priority over any other need, economic for example.

LCC has informed me and suggested these recommendations to pass on to you:

For the draft rule being adopted to implement Act 182 to be most effective, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- **Correct the timeline for protections.** The rule must be consistent with Act 182's effective date, which prohibits use of neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- **Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.** The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management (IPM) practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default.
- **Address high-risk uses in nursery production.** Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- **Prohibit aerial applications.** A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- **Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds.** Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Thank you for protecting the environment in Vermont!

Annie D'Alton

24 Pomeroy St, Burlington, 05401

From: [Brian Calhoun](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Ban peonies
Date: Friday, August 29, 2025 7:25:12 AM

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To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed rule no. 25P031, Best Management Practices for the Use of Neonicotinoid Treated Article Seeds and Neonicotinoid Pesticides. I strongly supported the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and aquatic ecosystems from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. *[Add any personal statement about why you care about this issue.]* For the draft rule being adopted to implement Act 182 to be most effective, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- **Correct the timeline for protections.** The rule must be consistent with Act 182's effective date, which prohibits use of neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- **Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.** The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management (IPM) practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default.
- **Address high-risk uses in nursery production.** Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- **Prohibit aerial applications.** A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- **Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds.** Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.
- Thanks,
- Brian Calhoun 802-363-3602

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ben Boshier](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Cc: lorif@lakechamplaincommittee.org
Subject: Banning Neonicotinoids from Lake Champlain Basin
Date: Friday, August 29, 2025 5:12:11 PM

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I live within two blocks of Lake Champlain in the New North End of Burlington and I have been a sailor on the lake for over 40 years. I have been concerned with the health and vitality of this lake and others throughout Vermont, my state of residence for 55 years. Oh, and I forgot to mention I own a canoe and have paddled on several lakes and ponds as well.

I supported the Vermont 2024 legislation banning neonics (Act 182) and ask that the language written in the proposed regulations be as strict with the most abbreviated timeframe allowed under the adopted law.

In particular:

1. Set the date for prohibition of neonic-treated seeds back to the beginning of 2029 and NOT 2031. This closer date is what the new law established. Where does this additional two years come from? Please don't allow lobbying by chemical manufacturers and farmers to sway the effective date. These pesticides are damaging our environment irrevocably;
2. Add specific and clear language that addresses the use of neonic applications on nursery-grown ornamental plants, in particular flowering ornamentals that attract pollinator insects such as bees. This usage presents high risk exposure to these pollinators;
3. Prohibit aerial applications for the obvious reason that fine sprays drift onto adjoining fields, wooded areas and waterways, often winding up in insect habitat areas and open water surfaces;
4. Ban the use or improper disposal of left-over neonic-treated seeds; and
5. Strengthen rules protecting habitats under the exemption section of the rule-making. The language for integrated pest management must be strengthened. The point of this legislation is to discontinue the use of neonic pesticides as soon as economically practicable.

I look forward to seeing these suggested revisions incorporated into the next neonic abatement draft.

Ben Boshier

Ben@groupbenefitsvermont.com.

74 Oakcrest Dr

Burlington, VT 05408

- **Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.** The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management (IPM) practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default.

Sent from Ben Boshier's iPhone

From: [Ed and Sue Olsen](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Bee safety
Date: Monday, August 11, 2025 2:48:26 PM

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Please consider how important this is, and realize Europe and Canada have seen this importance.

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- **Correct the timeline for protections.** The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- **Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.** The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- **Prohibit aerial applications.** A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- **Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds.** Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas

Most sincerely, Ed Olsen, apiculturist

From: [Richard Roy](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Best Management Practices for the Use of Neonicotinoid Treated Article Seeds and Neonicotinoid Pesticides
Date: Monday, August 11, 2025 3:15:40 PM

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I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- **Correct the timeline for protections.** The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- **Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.** The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- **Prohibit aerial applications.** A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- **Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds.** Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Richard Roy
881 Clay Point Road
Colchester, VT 05446

From: [Trisha Melton](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comment on 25P031
Date: Sunday, August 31, 2025 1:50:42 PM

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To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed rule no. 25P031, Best Management Practices for the Use of Neonicotinoid Treated Article Seeds and Neonicotinoid Pesticides. I strongly supported the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and aquatic ecosystems from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. Chemical companies have NEVER had human or animal lives in mind. We are disposable to them. Therefore we are the ones who have to implement best practices not wait around sitting on our hands.

For the draft rule being adopted to implement Act 182 to be most effective, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- **Correct the timeline for protections.** The rule must be consistent with Act 182's effective date, which prohibits use of neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- **Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.** The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management (IPM) practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default.
- **Address high-risk uses in nursery production.** Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- **Prohibit aerial applications.** A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- **Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds.** Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

--

photo



Trisha Melton
Environmental Studies , University of Vermont
845-820-6200

Create your own [email signature](#)



From: [Chris Muzzy](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: comment on proposed rule no. 25P031, Best Management Practices for the Use of Neonicotinoid Treated Article Seeds and Neonicotinoid Pesticides
Date: Friday, August 29, 2025 7:51:18 AM

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To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed rule no. 25P031, Best Management Practices for the Use of Neonicotinoid Treated Article Seeds and Neonicotinoid Pesticides. I strongly supported the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and aquatic ecosystems from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. Vermont waterways and flora are critical to the identity of the state and require protection.

For the draft rule being adopted to implement Act 182 to be most effective, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- Correct the timeline for protections. The rule must be consistent with Act 182's effective date, which prohibits use of neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions. The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management (IPM) practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default.
- Address high-risk uses in nursery production. Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- Prohibit aerial applications. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds. Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Best Regards,
Chris

Chris Muzzy
802 871-8513 Office
cdmuzzy@us.ibm.com

IBM Research - Semiconductors

From: [Kate Kelly](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on proposed rule no. 25P031
Date: Friday, August 29, 2025 10:06:25 AM

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To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed rule no. 25P031, Best Management Practices for the Use of Neonicotinoid Treated Article Seeds and Neonicotinoid Pesticides. I strongly supported the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and aquatic ecosystems from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. I am concerned about the impacts of neonicotinoids on aquatic ecosystems, especially amphibians and the food webs that support them. For the draft rule being adopted to implement Act 182 to be most effective, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- **Correct the timeline for protections.** The rule must be consistent with Act 182's effective date, which prohibits use of neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- **Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.** The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management (IPM) practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default.
- **Address high-risk uses in nursery production.** Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- **Prohibit aerial applications.** A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- **Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds.** Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Thank you.

--

Kate Kelly
573-465-1774
katekelly01@gmail.com

From: dbanks@together.net
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Comments on proposed rule no. 25P031
Date: Wednesday, September 3, 2025 12:37:28 PM

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To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed rule no. 25P031, Best Management Practices for the Use of Neonicotinoid Treated Article Seeds and Neonicotinoid Pesticides. I strongly supported the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and aquatic ecosystems from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. Not only do I live on the shores of Lake Champlain and am concerned about the health of the lake, but I am an avid gardener of both perennials and vegetables and I know the importance of a strong and undisturbed ecosystem. For the draft rule being adopted to implement Act 182 to be most effective, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- **Correct the timeline for protections.** The rule must be consistent with Act 182's effective date, which prohibits use of neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- **Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.** The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management (IPM) practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default.
- **Address high-risk uses in nursery production.** Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- **Prohibit aerial applications.** A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- **Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds.** Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Janine Banks
315 US Route 2
Grand Isle, VT 05458

[illegible]

The Tropical Fish Club of Burlington

"Meet and learn from others who share your interest!"

www.tfcb.org

[illegible]

From: Janetfredericks@gmavt.net
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Neonic pesticides
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2025 6:49:49 PM

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To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed rule no. 25P031, Best Management Practices for the Use of Neonicotinoid Treated Article Seeds and Neonicotinoid Pesticides. I strongly supported the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and aquatic ecosystems from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. *[Add any personal statement about why you care about this issue.]* For the draft rule being adopted to implement Act 182 to be most effective, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- **Correct the timeline for protections.** The rule must be consistent with Act 182's effective date, which prohibits use of neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- **Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.** The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management (IPM) practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default.
- **Address high-risk uses in nursery production.** Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- **Prohibit aerial applications.** A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- **Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds.** Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the

environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable land.

Thank you for your attention and positive action to protect our environment for now and for future generations.

Janet Fredericks

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sandra Murphy](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Neonicotinoid rules per Act 182
Date: Saturday, September 6, 2025 7:41:33 AM

You don't often get email from sandra.murphy.vt@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets staff,

I'm writing to comment on proposed rule no. 25P031, Best Management Practices for the Use of Neonicotinoid Treated Article Seeds and Neonicotinoid Pesticides.

The exceptionally important legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and aquatic ecosystems from neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides **is only as good as the rules that are put in place to implement the legislation**. The draft rules have some significant shortcomings, and I strongly urge you to revise them as follows:

- **Correct the timeline for protections.** The rule must be consistent with Act 182's effective date, which prohibits use of neonic-treated seeds beginning in **2029, not 2031** as the draft rule states.
- **Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.** The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management (IPM) practices are not sufficient. **Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default.**
- **Clearly address high-risk uses in nursery production.** Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, **it is not clear whether the draft rules do**. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- **Prohibit all aerial applications.** The Agency of Natural Resources is the Trustee of Vermont's waters, and protecting our drinking water, which is also habitat to countless insects, is your mandate. A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat will not prevent contamination from aerial spraying. I own a home in Vergennes, and our drinking water comes from Lake Champlain, which receives runoff from a vast expanse of farmland. We **must** do a better job of protecting Vermont's surface and groundwater.
- **Prevent pollution from unused treated seeds.** Clarify disposal rules for unused seeds to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. The draft rules note that applicators shall demonstrate practical knowledge of proper disposal of unused treated seeds. The rules should specify what proper disposal is.

Sincerely,
Alexandra Murphy
7 Bombard Pl.
Vergennes, VT

From: [Catherine Croteau](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Neonicotinoids
Date: Friday, August 29, 2025 8:30:33 AM

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To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed rule no. 25P031, Best Management Practices for the Use of Neonicotinoid Treated Article Seeds and Neonicotinoid Pesticides. I strongly supported the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and aquatic ecosystems from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. Each year I see less and less beneficial bees and butterflies. **We need bees for pollination of our foods!!!** For the draft rule being adopted to implement Act 182 to be most effective, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- **Correct the timeline for protections.** The rule must be consistent with Act 182's effective date, which prohibits use of neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- **Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.** The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management (IPM) practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default.
- **Address high-risk uses in nursery production.** Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- **Prohibit aerial applications.** A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- **Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds.** Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Thank you,

Cathy Croteau

From: darcibenoit@gmail.com
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Pesticide Rules
Date: Thursday, August 14, 2025 4:10:45 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- **Correct the timeline for protections.** The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- **Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.** The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers **well in advance** so beekeepers can plan accordingly.
- **Prohibit aerial applications.** A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- **Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds.** Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Beekeepers and other pollinators need a fair shot at survival and one of their best chances is to create the strongest rules possible to avoid over use of neonics.

Thank you,

Darci Benoit

From: [Gwen Ossenfort](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Please Tweak Neonics Bill !
Date: Sunday, August 31, 2025 7:22:19 PM

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To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed rule no. 25P031, Best Management Practices for the Use of Neonicotinoid Treated Article Seeds and Neonicotinoid Pesticides. I strongly supported the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and aquatic ecosystems from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. **A little tweaking and it'll be perfect!** For the draft rule being adopted to implement Act 182 to be most effective, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- **Correct the timeline for protections.** The rule must be consistent with Act 182's effective date, which prohibits use of neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- **Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.** The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management (IPM) practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default.
- **Address high-risk uses in nursery production.** Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- **Prohibit aerial applications.** A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- **Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds.** Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Gwen Ossenfort
North Hero, VT

Art
is
All
Around
You

From: [judith.albert](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Public Comment, neonicotinoid pesticides
Date: Friday, August 29, 2025 9:22:15 AM

You don't often get email from jalbertpgh@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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To the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed rule no. 25P031, Best Management Practices for the Use of Neonicotinoid Treated Article Seeds and Neonicotinoid Pesticides. I strongly supported the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and aquatic ecosystems from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. *[Add any personal statement about why you care about this issue.]* For the draft rule being adopted to implement Act 182 to be most effective, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- **Correct the timeline for protections.** The rule must be consistent with Act 182's effective date, which prohibits use of neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- **Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.** The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management (IPM) practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default.
- **Address high-risk uses in nursery production.** Even though Act 182 addresses neonic applications to nursery-grown ornamental plants, a known high-risk exposure route for pollinators, it is not clear whether the draft rules do. Neonic uses on ornamentals often involves blooming plants attractive to bees. The rules should explicitly cover these neonic uses.
- **Prohibit aerial applications.** A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- **Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds.** Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Sincerely,
Judith L. Albert, MD

From: [Sandiland & Vincent](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Rules for implementing Act 183
Date: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 11:10:49 AM

You don't often get email from sandilandandvincent@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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To whom it may concern,

We strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, we urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing. This is crucial to preserving our precious pollinators, and honey bees in particular:

- **Correct the timeline for protections.** The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- **Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.** The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- **Prohibit aerial applications.** A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- **Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds.** Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

Also we will need a mechanism that will allow the agency to monitor the proper enforcement of the law.

What is at stake is the future of vital species whose contribution to our society and overall wellbeing cannot be overstated.

Sincerely

Sandi and Vincent Anderson Girot

Sandiland & Vincent

[YouTube](#)

203 258-4030

Set from iPhone

[**https://www.sandilandandvincent.com**](https://www.sandilandandvincent.com)

From: [Alice Silverman](#)
To: [AGR - PHARM Rules](#)
Subject: Strong rules needed to implement Act 182 to protect pollinators.
Date: Monday, August 11, 2025 5:55:52 PM

You don't often get email from alicehersheysilverman@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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I strongly support the legislation (Act 182) passed in 2024 to protect pollinators and our environment from harmful neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. For the draft rule to be most effective in implementing the law, I urge the Agency to consider making the following changes to the draft before finalizing:

- **Correct the timeline for protections.** The rule must be consistent with the law by prohibiting neonic-treated seeds beginning in 2029, not 2031 as the draft rule states.
- **Strengthen protection for pollinators under exemptions.** The draft rule's requirements for integrated pest management practices are not sufficient. Growers using treated seeds under an exemption should implement IPM practices to ensure these pesticides do not continue to be used by default. The state should also include additional steps to reduce the risk to pollinators when exemptions are granted - like requiring notification to nearby beekeepers in advance.
- **Prohibit aerial applications.** A 50-foot buffer from water and pollinator habitat isn't enough to prevent contamination from aerial spraying.
- **Prevent pollution from leftover treated seeds.** Stronger disposal rules are needed to protect drinking water, public health, and the environment. Leftover seeds should be buried far from wells, wetlands, and other vulnerable areas.

I am a new beekeeper and have experienced colony collapse first hand. Please implement rules that will be truly effective in protecting pollinators.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alice Silverman, MD
179 North St

Montpelier VT 05602
179