

## Avoid Pesticides to Help Protect the Bay

Wondering how to prevent pesky insects without using toxic chemicals? You should know that there's a helpful website you can visit to find out:

- which insects actually benefit your garden
- how to cultivate a lawn that deters weeds and other pests
- what less toxic products can replace conventional pesticides
- how to dispose of leftover pesticides safely so they won't end up in our creeks, Bay, and Ocean
- what to ask a pest control company before deciding whether or not to hire it

You can even submit a question about your pest problem, and get a free personalized online response in less than 24 hours!

Most consumers are willing to try less toxic alternatives for managing household and garden pests. They just need to know that options do exist, and which ones they should use.

Fortunately, help is available. In the Bay Area more than 170 local nurseries and hardware stores have partnered with local government to help educate consumers about less toxic options. These retailers place cards on store shelves in front of less toxic products. Each card lists the



name of the product with the notation "Less Toxic to People and Pets" to help customers identify alternatives to conventional pesticides. Stores also carry fact sheets presenting tried and true ways to control common household and garden pests.

Look for the **Our Water, Our World** symbol before you buy.



Visit [www.OurWaterOurWorld.org](http://www.OurWaterOurWorld.org) for more information.