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**School:** Colegio Nueva Granada

## Greenest:

- ❖ Find out what pesticides, insecticides, and herbicides are currently used on campus.
  - My campus doesn't use any type of pesticides, insecticides, and herbicides. Partly because my school and specially the people in charge of our environment and partly because we are situated beside a mountain claimed to be a national natural park. This park is called la quebrada de la vieja and it is controlled by the state that we and no one can do any type of harm to it. This includes pesticides. Our school has a some trees, grass, and untouched zones where plants grow by themselves. This is for example in places behind the football field or between the gate of Colegio Nueva Granada and Fundación Hogar Nueva Granada. Our school also has some man-made gardens where there a lot of plants that are were brought to the school already grown and planted. For the school is easy not to have pesticides because we don't have a lot of "pests", as we denominate them, due to our place and climate. In the pictures below we can see the mountain behind the people in contrast with the gardens outside classes. Both non-GMO



- ❖ Meet with someone on your campus who is in the know about your school's landscaping protocols, likely someone in facilities or landscape. Share that person's name and title and find out contact info for any follow up you need.
  - I met with two teachers that are a married couple in my school. One is my english teacher and club leader: Mr. Ferreebee. His wife, Mrs. Ferreebee leads the school gardens and teaches younger students about this. Their contact info is [ferreebee@cng.edu](mailto:ferreebee@cng.edu) @[lferreebee@cng.edu](mailto:lferreebee@cng.edu) .

- ❖ Find out if there are any native, pollinator-friendly plants on campus.
  - There are a few pollinator-friendly plants in my campus but all those most are plants that are part of the untouched ecosystems not the ones they brought to school. This includes many types of flowers like Skullcap, Hyssop, Borages. I took pictures of some. I found these plants behind the school after the buses parking lot. In the actual school campus there are no pollinator-friendly plants I could recognize.



- ❖ Where does your school source the plants?
  - Most of the school bought plants are from a local gardening place that is called Vivero Girasol. Here they buy specific plants of gardening and the staff and general services takes good care of them.
- ❖ Where on campus, could you grow more native, pollinator-friendly plants free of neonics?
  - There are lots of places where I could plant more pollinator free on campus. I say on campus because I believe that planting in untouched ecosystems will disturb it. I think there is a really good place in a mountain to the side of the soccer field in one side and in the other the side walks to the buses. I think this place is perfect because there is a lot of space and humans won't interfere as much as in other places. After planting here we could try near the kindergarten places.
- ❖ Write up a report about your investigative experience. What did you learn? Were you surprised by your findings?
  - My investigative experience was really comforting. I was proud that my school was consciously active and promoting no pesticides and other poisons. I also liked to go around campus looking for plants and even asking my AP Environmental Science (APES) teacher where could I look for pollinator friendly plants. The actual APES class went for a walk all together because my teacher thought it was a great although the lab we conducted wasn't for pollinators I took advantage of the experience.
  - I think there are a lot of things we can do to help pollinators and little changing like planting different plants can be very crucial. In conclusion we I see the importance of pollinators in our planet and the effect of pesticides on pollinators.

- ❖ Do you have any next steps in mind? If so what would they be? *If this is a project you would like to continue pursuing, let Turning Green know. We and the team at Friends of the Earth will work with you.*
  - I think I would like to talk to the General Services Director and MOnique Duchamp to actually plant pollinator free plants. I would also like to start a campaign in Bogotá and Colombia to lower the level of pesticides used. I have in mind that Colombia is a country with lots of GMOs and insecticides due to our fight against drugs but this doesn't justify our actions and the effect on our biodiversity.