

Aisha Bandagi (Team Clover), Greengirlies22, Jericho High School

CHALLENGE

- First, read this article here about the negative effects of glyphosate, the main ingredient in the pesticide Roundup.
- Then, get inspired by this piece about Turning Green heroes successfully banning glyphosate on the University of California campuses — and learn more about Re:Wild Your Campus.
- Now, craft an awareness campaign focused on educating your community on the harms of glyphosate, as well as safe alternatives. Develop actionable steps a parks department or campus grounds office could take and how the community can get involved to make a difference.
- Create a poster that summarizes the effects of glyphosate on human health or biodiversity, along with a call to action. Be bold and creative with visuals, graphs, images and more.
- Once you've created your poster, send it to a school administrator or a school facilities department with this letter about why the issue is important to you. Here is a sample letter: Sample Letter.
- Post it in at least three places (virtual or physical) and snap a photo or screenshot to show us.
- Share it on Instagram with an informative caption and tag @TurningGreenOrg, @rewildyourcampus, local leadership and #PGC2023.

What is glyphosate:

- one of the most widely used herbicides
- kills all vegetation it is sprayed on so once people introduced glyphosate resistant crops, it was used everywhere
- kills plants as it blocks a step in a series of chemical reactions (shikimate pathway) which plants need to make the nutrients essential for growth

Harms of glyphosate, effects of it on human health and biodiversity:

- impacts the metabolism, growth, and reproduction of aquatic creatures
- changes the essential gut bacteria of many animals
 - ex: bees
 - animals at the base of the food chain that are essential to the ecosystem
- glyphosate can also build up in the environment and prove to be harmful
- can be carcinogenic to humans
- linked to non-Hodgkin lymphoma and other cancers
- glyphosate residue can stay in water and soil for several months or even years
 - can build up to higher and higher levels in the environment
- changes in metabolism, growth, behavior, and reproduction of many fishes, mollusks, and insects after exposure to herbicides with glyphosate in them
 - mosquito larvae for example

- learned the difference between dangerous and non-dangerous shadows in water slower
- more larval deaths which is bad because they are an important food source for many bird, fish, and amphibian species
- bees
 - increases time it takes to find their hives
 - bad for long-term colony health
 - targets the specialized bacteria that they have in their gut (affects their immune system)
- glyphosate blocks a series of chemical reactions
 - this includes the reactions that certain bacteria and fungi perform
 - these bacteria and fungi are very important though and form the basic foundation of many ecosystems
- some microbes are resistant meaning glyphosate plays a role in which microbes live
 - selective pressure that can limit the soil's ability to carry out their important functions/roles

Safe alternatives:

- natural methods for weed control
 - using vinegar on the weeds
 - salt and water (1 part salt to 2 parts water) on the weeds
 - only use in places that you are okay with removing most growing things
 - sidewalk cracks
 - driveways
 - under decks
 - pour boiling water on the weeds
 - hand pick the weeds out/manually weed your garden

Actionable steps:

- actively advocate and educate others on this topic
- switch out glyphosate containing herbicides for environmentally friendly options
- using lower concentrations of glyphosate containing herbicides
- banning glyphosate and other harmful herbicides

How the community can get involved:

- advocate and reach out to local leaders about the harms that glyphosate poses to the environment and human health
- choosing to use environmentally friendly methods to get rid of weeds instead of harmful herbicides

Flyer Info:

- one of the most widely used herbicides
- blocks the shikimate pathway
- impacts metabolism, growth, reproduction

- builds to higher and higher levels in the environment
- linked to cancer in humans
- safer alternatives: manually weed your garden, vinegar, boiling water

Caption:

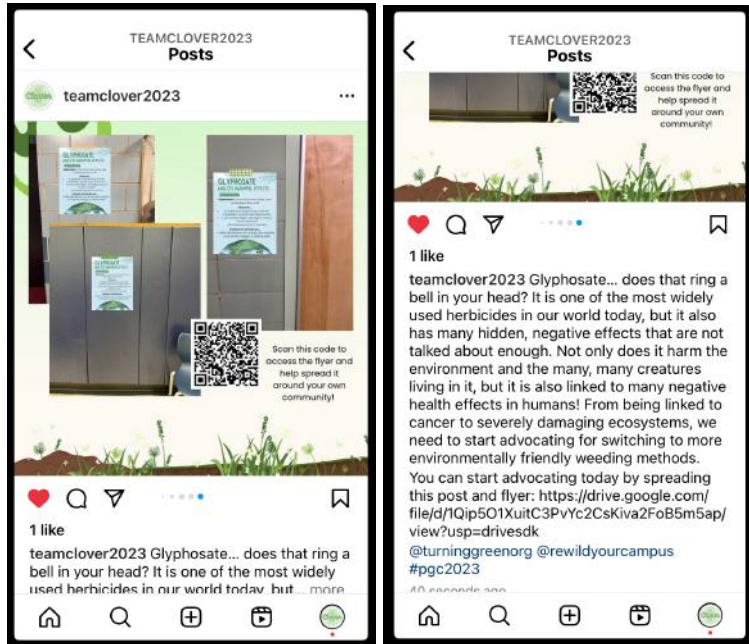
Glyphosate... does that ring a bell in your head? It is one of the most widely used herbicides in our world today, but it also has many hidden, negative effects that are not talked about enough. Not only does it harm the environment and the many, many creatures living in it, but it is also linked to many negative health effects in humans! From being linked to cancer to severely damaging ecosystems, we need to start advocating for switching to more environmentally friendly weeding methods!

You can start advocating today by spreading this post and flyer:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Qip5O1XuitC3PvYc2CsKiva2FoB5m5ap/view?usp=drivesdk>
@TurningGreenOrg @rewildyourcampus #PGC2023

Instagram:

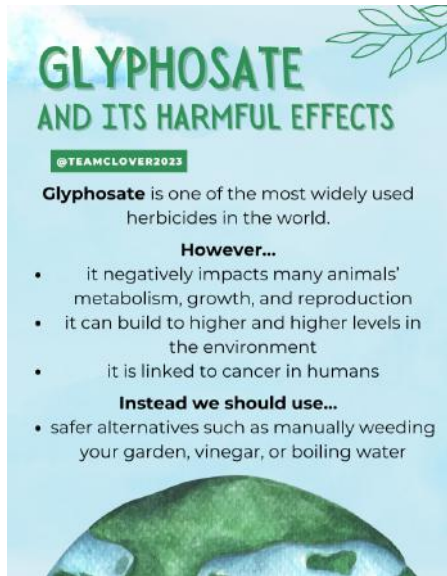




Instagram Link: <https://www.instagram.com/p/CyaOJH3u-OO/?igshid=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==>

Flyer:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Qip5O1XuitC3PvYc2CsKiva2FoB5m5ap/view?usp=sharing>



Letter:

To: dcohen@jerichoschools.org, jpriszano@jerichoschools.org,
bcummings@jerichoschools.org, mfinlay@jerichoschools.org
Cc: aisha.bandagi@jerichoapps.org, emilie.kurniawan@jerichoapps.org,
chloe.yang@jerichoapps.org, diana.sun@jerichoapps.org

Subject: Green Grounds Certification

Hello!

We are Aisha Bandagi, Chloe Yang, Emilie Kurniawan, and Diana Sun from this year's Project Green Challenge's Team Clover. We are students here at Jericho High School and feel as though our beautiful school grounds are an important reason for why we love this school so much. From the many gardens that we have to our greenhouse, there are many parts of this school that we can be proud of. That is why we would love to see our campus become [Green Grounds Certified!](#) This certification goes beyond just how our school appears, and dives into how we are taking care of the ground and earth that our school is built on. With an emphasis on improving soil health and climate resilience, reducing water needs, and increasing carbon sequestration, becoming Green Grounds Certified will help our campus get recognition for not only how beautiful it is, but also how well it is managed and taken care of.

Through the elimination of synthetic pesticides, such as glyphosate, and the implementation of organic practices, we can help reduce the threats that synthetic chemicals pose and improve our school's local ecosystems. This is a really exciting way to improve Jericho's sustainability efforts and make our school even better!

We made both an [Instagram post](#) and a [flyer](#) centered around the negative effects of glyphosate and we would love it if you took a look at them!

Sincerely,
Team Clover
Aisha Bandagi, Chloe Yang, Emilie Kurniawan, Diana Sun

Green Grounds Certification 



Emilie Kurniawan
to dcohen, jpriszano, bcummings, mfinlay, Aisha, Emilie, Chloe, me ▾

8:46 AM (0 minutes ago) ☆ ↶ ⋮

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Sincerely,
Team Clover
Aisha Bandagi, Chloe Yang, Emilie Kurniawan, Diana Sun

2 Attachments • Scanned by Gmail 



[Three Places \(also on Instagram!\):](#)

