

## INTRODUCTION & MISSION:

Thanks to the strong support and investment by our members, Oregon Toxics Alliance is growing in size and effectiveness!

We want to thank all of you who acted upon your visions of healthy children, thriving salmon, rich forest soils, sweet air to breathe, and environmental health for all. OTA is growing so that we can meet the upcoming challenges facing our state. Our communities are at a precarious tipping point in the balance between policy that protects the environment or policy that puts us on a backwards path. OTA will work to push Oregon's elected leaders to act to benefit our quality of life and the health of the environment.

Oregon Toxics Alliance's purpose is to work for all Oregonians to expose root causes of toxic pollution and help communities find solutions that protect human and environmental health. OTA envisions a future in which protecting health is the framework for making decisions about the use of toxic chemicals.

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Child Development  
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### Staff

Lisa Arkin, Executive Director  
John Jordan-Cascade,  
Communications Manager  
Alison Guzman,  
Community Outreach Coordinator

OREGON  
TOXICS  
ALLIANCE



ANNUAL  
2010  
REPORT

## PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES •



**West Eugene Industrial Corridor Environmental Justice Project** is project that promises to create a new era of cooperation between environmental groups and those working for social justice in the Willamette Valley. In close partnership with Centro LatinoAmericano, OTA launched the West Eugene Industrial Corridor Environmental Health Project in 2010. This collaborative project received an Environmental Justice grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency, one of only six awarded in the entire Northwest. The project grew out of concerns expressed from neighbors in the area of West Eugene immediately downwind from a proposed biomass energy plant, which is scheduled to start burning forest by-products in 2011. These affected neighborhoods have higher percentages of minority, elderly, disabled and poverty level residents.



Two canvassers, Ellie Aguirre and Hannah Torres, ask a Bethel neighborhood resident about health and air pollution for OTA's West Eugene Environmental Health Project.

These families are disproportionately affected by higher concentrations of industrial air pollutants from surrounding industrial sources. OTA employed five canvassers to go door-to-door to gather data about environmental health issues that concern residents.

According to preliminary results, neighbors believe that they have been exposed to cumulative multiple air pollutants and suffer health consequences because of the effect of cumulative pollution. The project is actively encouraging area residents to take part in solutions they feel will improve their health. Ultimately, our goal is to take proactive steps towards improving the living and health conditions of the Industrial Corridor neighborhood residents.



### **Healthy Air Oregon**

Once they learn about the hefty environmental impact from idling – emissions that foul the air and increase greenhouse gases – many businesses and elected leaders are joining OTA's Healthy Air Oregon campaign (HAO). A key component of HAO is to adopt a No Idling policy. Our HAO project is a proven solution for cleaner air in Oregon's urban

centers. 2010 saw many new businesses join the campaign enthusiastically, from large ones, including Northwest Community Credit Union, PeaceHealth - Oregon region and the Oregon Enterprise Rent-A-Car – to small ones including Moss Hair Studio and Elephants Deli. These businesses promise to do their part for cleaner air, including taking the No Idling pledge and educating their customers.

Finally, we continue to make great strides in working with governments to take action for better air quality. The Department of Environmental Quality has begun the Director's No Idling Challenge! The City of Portland announced their sponsorship through Mayor Sam Adams' blog!

We are taking this groundswell of support to rally for new policies to limit idling for all vehicles not in the flow of traffic. The benefit will be preventing many millions of tons of hazardous air pollution and greenhouse gases from harming Oregonians.



### Safe Public Places Campaign

In 2010, OTA launched the Safe Public Places Campaign, beginning crucial negotiations with sustainable businesses, organic farmers, elected leaders and other partners to dramatically limit the use of pesticides on public land. OTA's project calls for a 70% reduction in the amount of pesticides used in parks, in and around public buildings and on public roads – throughout the entire state!

Our idea is simple and sensible. We are harkening back to 1991, when Oregon became one of the first states to reduce how much pesticide was sprayed by public agencies. That, however, all ended in 2001 due to political pressure.

OTA is calling on elected leaders to take action to bring this law back and strengthen it! Why? Because there is strong evidence that pesticides are a public and environmental health problem, linked to persistent ecosystem damage and tragic disease. What's more, such a program is proven to save money, benefit public health and protect the environment!

Our campaign for Safe Public Places will have Oregon state agencies follow integrated pest management protocols that require less harmful chemicals, measurable objectives, scientific data and safer alternatives. We want nothing short of restoring Oregon's rightful place as a leader in children's health and environmental protection.



The State of Oregon sprays thousands of pounds of pesticides where you might walk, sit or play, so OTA is making sure that families and pets are never exposed to pesticides in public places!



### Oregon Pesticide Action Work Group

2010 was a banner year for OTA's grassroots project, the Oregon Pesticide Action Working Group (OPAWG), a network of Oregonians representing seven rural counties. OPAWG builds leadership for pesticide reform by assisting with direct action campaigns – mostly for small towns and rural communities who are fighting to stop pesticide drift and run-off. OTA believes that developing a statewide voice and supporting these grassroots efforts is critical to advancing change. OPAWG is the catalyst for many successful projects.

For example, in September 2010, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) agreed to a ground-breaking partnership with OTA and rural neighbors to remove invasive weeds without the use of pesticides along an eight-mile stretch of Highway 36 in the Siuslaw Watershed. They also agreed to reduce pesticide use by 60% along the other 44 miles of this scenic highway. We also helped communities take on successful pesticide reduction projects in Walton, Yachats, Ashland, Eugene, Waldport and Springeld. Furthermore, OTA traveled throughout the Northwest region to present data and make recommendations in front of key agencies that have the ability to set policy to reduce pesticide use.

OTA published our new "***Protecting Health in Your Community: A Guidebook for Organizing for Pesticide Reform***" that is tailored toward helping Oregon residents. You can find a PDF version of this report on our website: [www.OregonToxics.org](http://www.OregonToxics.org). Let us know how we can help YOUR community!

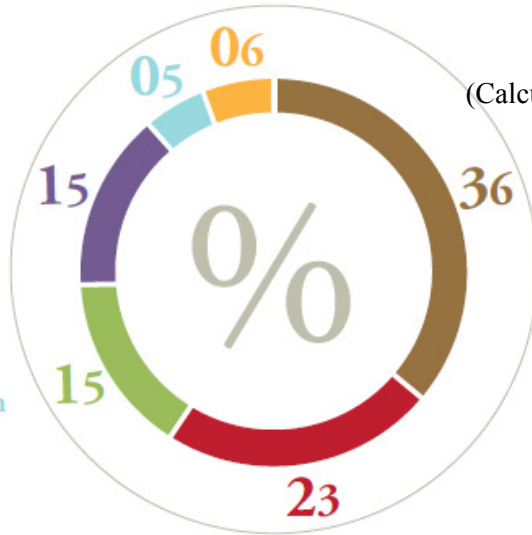
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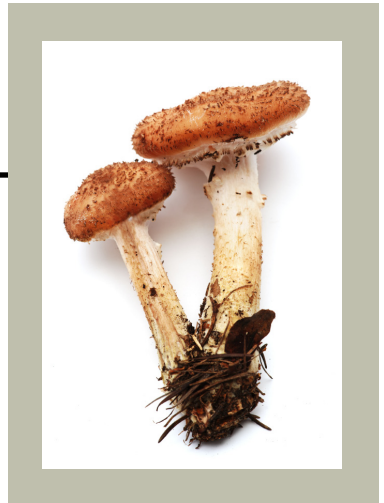
As a result of our visionary groundwork in 2010, we are poised to score landmark changes in the way Oregon thinks about risks to our health in 2011. We will continue our tenacious pursuit of a safer, toxics-free Oregon!

## EXPENSES & TIME BY PROGRAM

- Pesticide Policy Reform
- Healthy Air Oregon
- Environmental Justice
- Community Resource
- Toxics Right To Know/Chemical Reform
- Administration

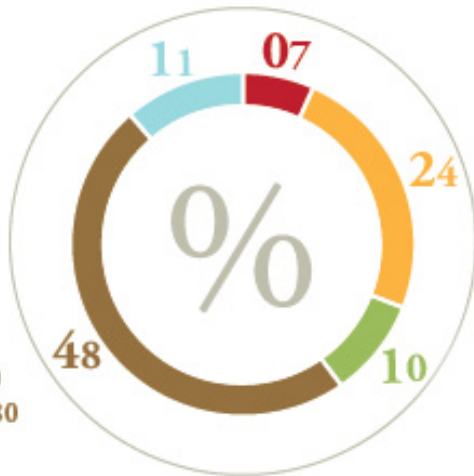


OTA ANNUAL BUDGET & INCOME  
(Calculated October 2009 - October 2010)



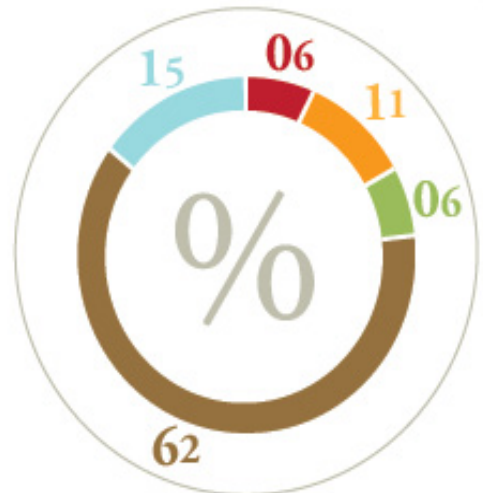
## INCOME

- Government Grant
- Foundation Grants
- Events
- Memberships & Contributions
- Business Donations
- In-kind Donations \$12,000
- In-kind Volunteer Hours 980



## MEDIA

- Blogs
- Television
- Radio
- NewsPapers / Journals
- Online Media



Number of times OTA was featured in the media: **45**

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

“From the right to know and the duty to inquire  
flows the obligation to act.”  
- Sandra Steingraber

### Foundation Support

Ben and Jerry's Foundation  
EMSA Fund  
Enterprise Holdings  
Evergreen Hill Fund of the Oregon  
Community Foundation  
hundredth monkey foundation  
John and Betty Soreng Environmental  
Fund of the Oregon Community  
Foundation  
Mark Frohnmayer Fund of the Oregon  
Community Foundation  
McKenzie River Gathering Foundation  
Meyer Memorial Trust  
National Environmental Health  
Association  
Northwest Health Foundation  
Patagonia Portland  
Resist: Funding Social Change  
Sperling Foundation  
Spirit Mountain Community Fund  
U.S. Environmental Protection  
Agency - Environmental Justice Small  
Grant Program

### Business Community Support

#### Beyond Toxics Champions

Mountain Rose Herbs (Eugene, OR)

#### Beyond Toxics Sponsors

Enterprise Holdings (St. Louis, MO)  
Natural Choice, LLC (Eugene, OR)  
Northwest Community Credit Union  
(Springfield, OR)

#### Beyond Toxics Supporters

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Eugene Water and Electric Board  
(Eugene, OR)  
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and active members.

