



**Green Party of the Albuquerque Metropolitan Area
(GPAMA)
P. O. Box 40033
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87196**

20 September 2018

Dear Mayor Keller:

Please find attached, in four parts, over 500 signatures from residents, workers, and visitors, for a petition to halt the use of glyphosate (the active ingredient in Roundup), on green space and landscaped areas in the Albuquerque metropolitan area. Of these signatures--after accounting for duplicate--398 are from Albuquerque. Eleven signatures or addresses were indeterminate or deemed invalid. The remaining signatures are from other towns in Bernalillo County, surrounding counties, and Texas (three). Glyphosate has been classified as a probable human carcinogen based on sufficient evidence in animal studies and limited evidence in humans studies. You likely have heard of the recent \$289 million award to a man in California who regularly used glyphosate as a groundskeeper and developed non-Hodgkin lymphoma.

In addition to the direct risk to humans, glyphosate use has been linked to the decline in the monarch butterfly population. There is also evidence that glyphosate exposure affects the navigational ability of honeybees, potentially affecting foraging success. Please recall that Albuquerque was awarded a Bee City, USA designation, implying a commitment to reduce or eliminate chemicals harmful to bees. Thriving pollinator populations significantly aid crop production; apples, squash, and tomatoes are three popular examples of crops that require pollination. Information sources are available on request.

When citizens are out enjoying themselves in parks and other green spaces, they do not think that the grass they are sitting on is infused with a highly toxic substance. Nor should they. Our taxpayer money should not be used to make us sick. This especially applies to children.

We request that the City of Albuquerque immediately stop all application of glyphosate around city buildings, (e. g., fire stations) at city parks, on street medians, and in open spaces. We strongly encourage working with the Bernalillo County Commission to eliminate glyphosate use in the county. In 2017, Bernalillo County spent nearly \$12,000 for ~730 gallons of glyphosate. Little League and soccer fields are regularly sprayed, as well as medians, parks (including dog), trails, and senior center grounds.

If a chemical agent were needed as a last resort in Integrated Pest Management, several products approved for organic crop production are available. Please eliminate the use of glyphosate in public zones in Albuquerque. Thank you for your consideration.

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