

# NEWLY PURCHASED PLANTS MAY BE TOXIC!

Plants purchased from a nursery (if they weren't grown on site) have likely been treated with a systemic pesticide. Systemic pesticides are used widely in the wholesale nursery trade. Systemic pesticides, including an infamous class called neonicotinoids, are contained in every cell of the growing plant, including the pollen and nectar. Studies have found presence of these pesticides even 18 months after treatment.

**Here are some steps you can take to minimize the harm these toxic pesticides may cause to pollinators and beyond in your home ecosystem:**



When you are ready to plant your new seedling, remove the root ball from the pot. Shake as much of the potting soil as possible into the TRASH. This soil is toxic and must go to a landfill (rather than compost)

1



After planting your new plant, remove all blossoms for the entire first season, as the nectar and pollen may be poisonous to pollinating insects during this time.

2



If you want to go the extra mile, you can cover the plant with netting for the first season to protect all insects from consuming any part of the plant.

3