



The Kroger Family of Companies

Pollinator Protection Statement

As America's grocer, the Kroger Family of Companies is committed to protecting people and our planet by advancing positive change in our company and our communities. Through our [Zero Hunger | Zero Waste social impact plan](#), we are on a journey to end hunger in our communities and eliminate waste across our company by 2025.

As responsible stewards of our natural resources, we recognize the global honey bee population is vulnerable, with research indicating that causes may include the use of certain pesticides, including neonicotinoids. Due to the potential risk to the honey bee population, we support and encourage efforts to protect these pollinator species.

The following outlines Kroger's expanded commitment to protect pollinators:

We are committed to eliminate the sourcing of live outdoor plants in our stores and garden centers that have been treated with pesticides containing neonicotinoids by the year 2020. This commitment is inclusive of outdoor plants known to be pollinated by honey bees or known to attract honey bees.

Today, the majority of live plant sales in Kroger's garden center and outdoor floral selection are not treated with neonicotinoids during the growing process. Our suppliers are actively seeking alternative options for the remaining products, and we are committed to working with them to ensure proper alternatives have been identified by 2020. We will also track, measure and report on our progress against this commitment.

In addition:

- Kroger supports and encourages industry and supplier efforts to limit non-essential use of these pesticides and to apply them in a manner consistent with all applicable regulations and guidelines.
- We support and encourage supplier efforts to move away from pesticides in favor of alternative pest management.
- We support the expansion of the Organic food industry and will continue to offer our customers certified Organic products in relevant product categories. Kroger has helped make natural and Organic products an affordable option for many families, and we will continue to promote these items and feature them prominently in our stores and online.
- We will continue to increase the number and variety of items sourced for *Our Brands* line of Simple Truth® and Simple Truth Organic® products, which are free from artificial preservatives and ingredients.

Kroger will rely on the expertise of the U.S Environmental Protection Agency, other scientific experts and our stakeholders to evaluate further updates to this policy.

More information is available in our [Sustainability Report](#).