


**WE  
WORK  
FOR  
YOU**

Environmental Working Group  
Annual Report 2006

We started EWG because we believe in the power of information to change how Americans think about environmental and public health issues. Fourteen years later, we're not just changing people's minds—we're shaping policy, making sure government regulators do their jobs, exposing corporate misdeeds and giving you the information you need to protect your family's health. Our investigations dig up the facts about toxic chemicals, public lands and agriculture. And the secret of our success is our small but talented team of scientists, engineers, policy experts, lawyers and computer programmers. We thought you'd like to meet some of them.



**Ken Cook**  
**President & Co-Founder**  
Environmental Working Group



“I’m just so very grateful that EWG exists to watch out for the consumers’ health and safety. God knows we can’t trust the government or big corporations to do the right thing.”

LILY Y.  
SAN FRANCISCO

# PROTECTION

No other issue is as important to EWG as the health of America’s children. When it comes to exposures to toxic chemicals, kids aren’t just little adults – they can be affected by very small doses at critical junctures in their development. We’re fighting to reverse our current system and make chemical companies prove their products are safe for kids before their products get on store shelves.

# WE FIGHT FOR CHILDREN

**Richard Wiles**  
Executive Director & Co-Founder  
Environmental Working Group

## Chemical Protection

**Pesticide Standards** | At the National Academy of Sciences, I asked a question that seems like a no-brainer: Shouldn't pesticide standards be based on what's safe for children? Three years after we started EWG to fight for this idea, it became law. Now EWG is on a mission to bring the same principle to regulation of the industrial chemicals building up in our bodies: If they're not safe for kids, they shouldn't be on the market. It won't be quick and it won't be easy, but we won't stop until our laws put the health of children before the interests of chemical companies.

**Richard Wiles** co-founded EWG with Ken Cook and now serves as Executive Director. He is a former senior staff officer at the National Academy of Sciences' Board on Agriculture. Richard holds a B.A. from Colgate University and an M.A. from California State University at Sacramento. Under his direction, EWG's research operation became the nation's leading defender of children from toxic chemical exposures. Richard and his family are avid skiers, both on the water and on the slopes.



“EWG’s data helped me make informed decisions about products to buy to reduce my toxic load, which I believe was a big factor in my recovery from breast cancer.”

RUTH M.  
PENNSYLVANIA

**DATA**

Using this now ancient-seeming piece of technology called a tape reader, EWG analyzed 100 million USDA records to create the first Farm Subsidy Database. This online tool is widely recognized as having transformed the debate about farm subsidies. Now that much information fits on a few CDs, the database has over 200 million records, and we’re seeing real reform starting to happen.

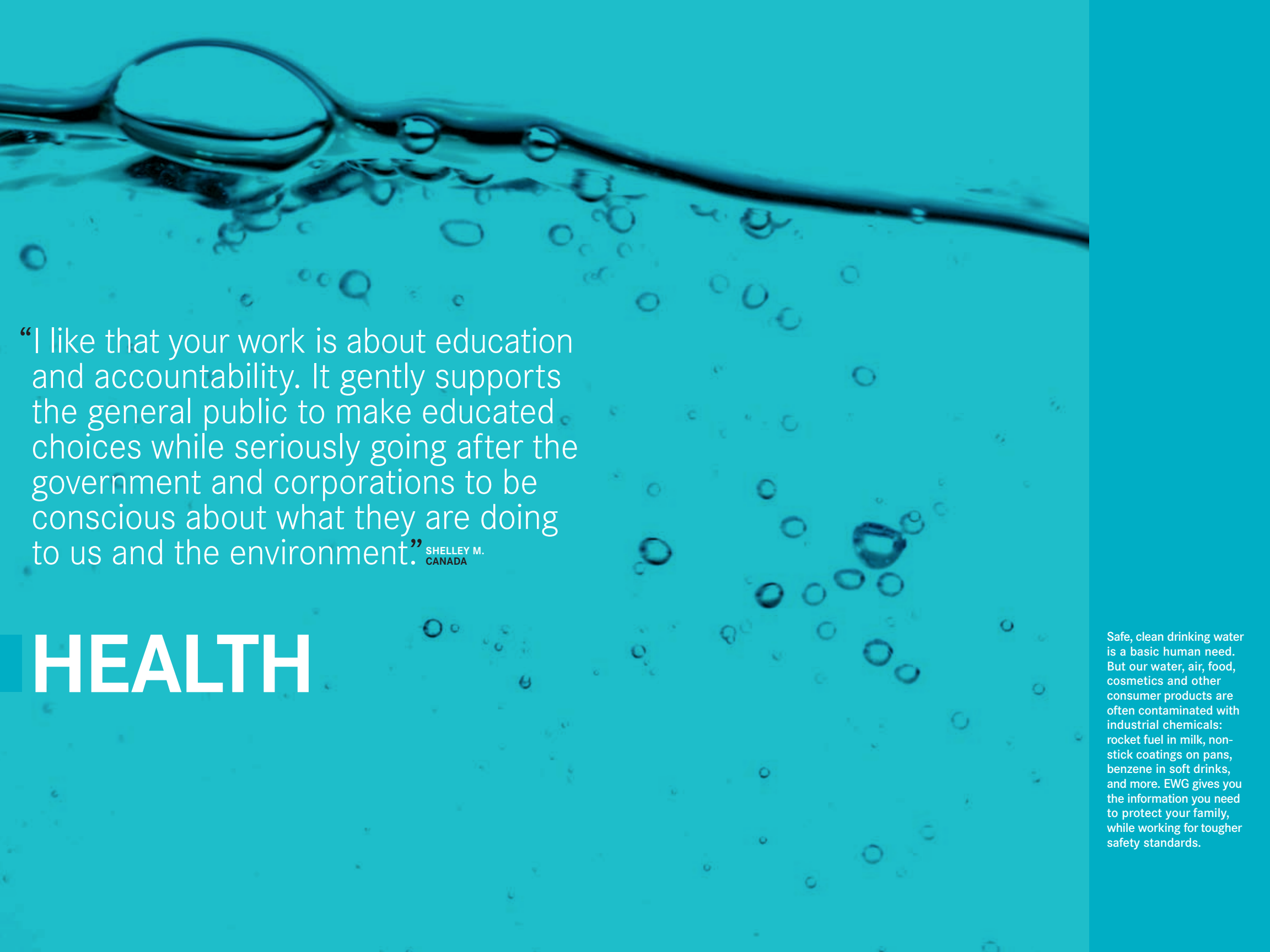
# WE ANALYZE PUBLIC INFORMATION

**Chris Campbell**  
VP for Information Technology  
Environmental Working Group

Chris Campbell has been at EWG since its founding in 1993. As VP for Information Technology, he pioneered the analysis of massive government data sets that are a hallmark of EWG's work, most notably the Farm Subsidy Database. He graduated from the University of Delaware with a degree in Computer Information Sciences. Chris is married with four children, but none of them enjoy the excellent beer that he brews.

## Information Drives Change

**Data Analysis** | Farm subsidies, chemicals in cosmetics, contaminants in your tap water—many of our investigations are built on huge databases that involve literally millions of computer calculations. The technology keeps evolving by leaps and bounds, helping us come up with more innovative applications to tell the story of EWG. Today we can put data on your desktop that once would have filled a library. But one thing stays the same: The power of information to drive change. Because numbers don't lie.



“I like that your work is about education and accountability. It gently supports the general public to make educated choices while seriously going after the government and corporations to be conscious about what they are doing to us and the environment.”

SHELLEY M.  
CANADA

# HEALTH

Safe, clean drinking water is a basic human need. But our water, air, food, cosmetics and other consumer products are often contaminated with industrial chemicals: rocket fuel in milk, non-stick coatings on pans, benzene in soft drinks, and more. EWG gives you the information you need to protect your family, while working for tougher safety standards.

# WE RESEARCH YOUR WORLD

Renée Sharp  
Senior Analyst  
Environmental Working Group

## Accessible Information

**Toxics & Human Health** | As a scientist, what I find so great about EWG is how we combine in-depth research to uncover the truth about toxic chemicals with a knack for telling the story so that it hits home for people. Parts per billion, daily reference doses, tests on lab rats—environmental health can seem pretty abstract sometimes. But ask a new mother if she cares about rocket fuel in her breast milk, and she gets it: This is my body and my baby they're talking about.



**Renée Sharp** is a Senior Analyst in EWG's Oakland office. Since joining EWG in 2000, Renée has authored over 20 reports on a variety of environmental and public health issues, and indulges her investigative nature by exposing government and corporate conflicts of interest. She holds Masters and Bachelors degrees in Biology from Pennsylvania State University and Rice University. Renée spends most of her free time rock climbing, hiking, biking, and skiing, and will soon add whitewater raft guiding to her adventure mix.



“The scars of open-pit mining are visible in many places on the Environmental Working Group’s Web site, which combined its new data with Google’s mapping software.”

BY FELICITY BARRINGER  
NEW YORK TIMES  
FROM URANIUM IS A HOT COMMODITY,  
AND CLAIMS HAVE SOARED. DEC 14, 2006

# RESOURCES

Much of America’s energy needs can be met by conservation and by wind, solar and other renewable sources of energy. Instead, the government is letting oil, gas and mining companies drill and lay claim to Western public lands at a breakneck pace in a rush for more oil, gas and uranium to fuel nuclear power. EWG’s maps of wells, mines, leases and claims – such as this one which indicates mining claims on the North Rim of the Grand Canyon – are graphic evidence of the impact on our most treasured places.

# WE PROTECT PUBLIC LAND

Dusty Horwitt, JD  
Natural Resources Analyst  
Environmental Working Group

## Endangered Treasures

**Natural Resources** | Western public lands encompass irreplaceable mountains, canyons, rivers and deserts that belong to all of us. But federal energy policies are endangering these treasures, opening vast expanses of public land to mining and oil and gas drilling. In return, we get water and air pollution, scarred landscapes, and small amounts of energy. With sophisticated mapping software, our *Who Owns the West?* project lets people see the impacts for themselves and helps Westerners fight to save special places.

Dusty Horwitt, JD, is an Analyst focusing on public lands and transportation. He previously worked as a deputy press secretary to U.S. Senator Dick Durbin and as a lawyer. He holds a B.A. in History from Brown University and a J.D. from Georgetown University. When he's not writing freelance articles, or strumming his guitar, Dusty is probably working on his cross-over dribble on the basketball court.



“Perhaps the most influential member of the alliance is the Environmental Working Group, which maintains a computerized database of farm subsidies by name of farm, type of crop, even congressional district. The data help foment discord among farmers by detailing who gets subsidies and who doesn’t.”

BY RICHARD WOLF  
USA TODAY  
FROM FAT DAYS MAY BE OVER FOR  
FARM SUBSIDIES | JUN 8, 2006

# AGRICULTURE

America is producing record amounts of corn. And the way we're producing it is killing the Gulf Coast fishery, hurting the economy of developing nations, and contributing to the nation's obesity epidemic. We're working to change farm policy so that it benefits consumers and the environment, not just big food producers.

# WE ADVOCATE FOR CHANGE

Michelle Perez  
Senior Analyst  
Environmental Working Group

Michelle Perez provides policymakers with information on the environmental problems associated with agriculture. She is finishing a PhD focused on farm nutrient management regulations from the University of Maryland's School of Public Policy. Michelle holds a Master's degree from Maryland and a B.A. in Biology and Marine Sciences from Occidental College. After work hours, you can usually find Michelle, her husband, and their teenage daughter working on their go-karts and chasing their non-fetching dog around the yard.

## Conservation Efforts

**Water & Agriculture** | Each summer, a "Dead Zone" the size of New Jersey extends from the mouth of the Mississippi through the Gulf of Mexico, killing most marine life. The primary culprit: Midwestern farm fertilizers and animal manure that drain into the Mississippi River. It's no coincidence that those are the same farms that receive the lion's share of federal farm subsidies. Yet every year, two out of three farmers who apply for conservation projects get turned down for lack of funds. We're working to convince federal policymakers that we can restore the Gulf to health by cutting polluting subsidies and increasing conservation support.



“Basically you guys are doing the research in areas I’m concerned with (as a mom of three, including a baby) which are food, personal products, and the environment.”

ASHLEY P.  
LOS ANGELES

# PROGRAMS

Toxics & Human Health

Natural Resources

Agriculture & Water

## 2006 Projects

### Toxics & Human Health

#### Stolen Inventory (National)

EWG’s investigation shows that EPA failed to require public disclosure under the Toxics Release Inventory for ten major air and water pollutants. **JANUARY 2006**

#### DisGraceful

EWG made public secret corporate documents showing that workers in W.R. Grace insulation factories were recklessly exposed to asbestos—yet would be left out of a federal compensation plan. **JANUARY 2006**

#### Benzene in Soft Drinks

EWG discovered that many popular soft drinks contain ingredients that can form cancer-causing benzene. After we unearthed and publicized obscure FDA data, major beverage makers dropped benzene-forming chemicals from their formulas. **FEBRUARY 2006**

#### Stolen Inventory (California)

EWG’s investigation of government and industry data revealed that a Bush Administration plan would allow California industries to put almost 1.5 million pounds of toxic chemicals a year into the environment without telling the public. **APRIL 2006**

#### Auto Asthma Index

EWG’s searchable, localized rankings show which vehicles are most or least likely to contribute to America’s childhood asthma epidemic. **JUNE 2006**

#### Fluoride Safety

EWG and other groups took legal action demanding that EPA suspend all uses of the pesticide sulfuryl fluoride—a turning point in the effort to limit fluoride exposures. **JULY 2006**

#### Thyroid Threat

EWG analysis of CDC data found that millions of women of child-bearing age are exposed to the rocket fuel contaminant perchlorate at levels that interfere with the normal development of their babies. **OCTOBER 2006**

### Skin Deep

#### www.CosmeticsDatabase.org

The government cannot mandate safety studies of cosmetics, and as a result 89 percent of the ingredients in cosmetics and personal care products have not been adequately assessed for safety. EWG’s database of 25,000 products helps consumers make safer choices. **ONGOING**

#### www.toxome.org

EWG’s testing for the pollution in people—the most comprehensive biomonitoring program in the world—found 455 industrial chemicals in the blood, urine or breast milk of more than 100 individuals, including babies in the womb. **ONGOING**

#### www.FoodNews.org

You can’t always find organic produce. Our Shopper’s Guide features the 12 fruits and vegetables with the most and least pesticides so you’ll know which ones to buy organic, and which conventionally-grown ones are okay if organic isn’t available. **ONGOING**

#### Tuna Calculator

Mercury is toxic to a baby’s developing brain and nervous system and linked to health and memory problems in adults. EWG’s tuna calculator will show you how much tuna you can safely eat per week. **ONGOING**

#### Tap Water Database

Our analysis of tap water testing records from every public water system in 42 states found that tap water is contaminated with more than 140 unregulated chemicals. See how the water in your area rates. **ONGOING**

#### www.Enviroblog.org

EWG staffers post news, links, and comments on the environment and public health. **ONGOING**

### Natural Resources

#### Gas Gouge Calculator

As gas prices surge above \$3.00 per gallon, Americans in 50 metro areas will pay \$83 billion more for gasoline this year, compared to what they paid in February 2003. **MAY 2006**

#### Real MPG

EWG’s analysis showed that the U.S. would need one-fifth less foreign oil if car companies had to meet mileage standards based on real-world driving conditions. **JULY 2006**

#### U.S. Mining Database

Our analysis of millions of federal records shows hundreds of new mining claims near the Grand Canyon and other treasured places, many of them for uranium. EWG’s interactive maps let you view satellite photos of mining’s impact on the land. **DECEMBER 2006**

### Agriculture & Water

#### Dead in the Water

Shifting a modest portion of commodity subsidies into conservation programs could significantly reduce ‘Dead Zone’ pollution in the Gulf of Mexico while also boosting the bottom line for family farms. **APRIL 2006**

#### Crop Subsidy Bonus

EWG helped derail a plan to provide a \$1.5 billion crop subsidy bonus. Billed as a means of helping farmers with high-energy costs, this bonus was in fact unfair to most farmers, and was a wasteful use of scarce taxpayer funds. **MAY 2006**

#### Farm Subsidy Database

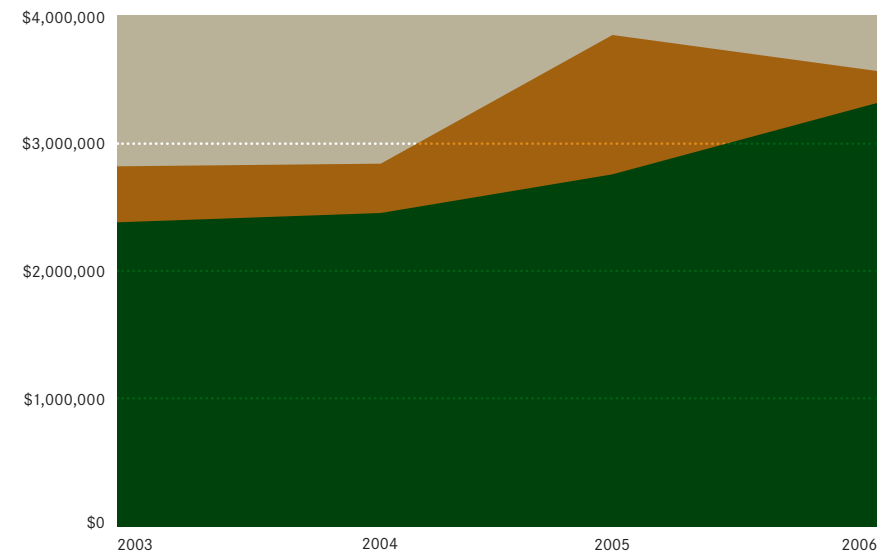
EWG created the searchable Farm Subsidy Database to show exactly who was getting commodity subsidies and whether taxpayers were really getting their money’s worth. **ONGOING**

#### www.Mulchblog.com

EWG President Ken Cook comments on agriculture, farm policy, and food safety. **ONGOING**

EWG received the top rating of 4 stars from CharityNavigator.org for three consecutive years: 2004, 2005 & 2006.

# FINANCIALS



Revenue & Expenses 2003 – 2006

■ REVENUE ■ EXPENSES

## 2006 Revenues

Foundation Grants 78.6%	\$ 2,818,950
Individual Donations 18.4%	659,094
Interest Income 1.9%	67,179
Sales & Misc 0.6%	21,566
Program Support 0.6%	20,289
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 3,587,078</b>

## 2006 Expenses

Toxics & Health 52.1%	\$ 1,681,711
Water & Agriculture 22.8%	737,464
Natural Resources 8.9%	286,334
Management & General 8.8%	283,860
Fundraising 7.4%	240,633
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$3,230,003</b>

“It brings tears to my eyes to think of an organization of people that care so much about our health and the environment, that they would devote themselves to providing honest, thorough scientific research to truly make a difference. That is what EWG does. I am so grateful and proud of them that I have made monthly donations since October 2003.” TOM V. CALIFORNIA

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## \$250,000 or more

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William & Flora  
Hewlett Foundation  
Joyce Foundation **2-YR**  
Henry Luce  
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Commonweal  
Health Care Without Harm

\* These individuals also contributed to the EWG Action Fund

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Regeneration Project  
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**Charlotte Brody, RN**  
Commonweal  
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**Sandy Buchanan** SECRETARY  
Ohio Citizen Action  
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