



# BEYOND PESTICIDES PRESS RELEASE

Protecting Health and the Environment with Science, Policy, and Action

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## Lawsuit Sues Scotts and GreenTechnologies for Claiming PFAS-Contaminated Products Are “Eco-Friendly” and “Sustainable”

WASHINGTON, D.C., October 28, 2024—Beyond Pesticides has filed suit against The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company and GreenTechnologies, LLC for allegedly misleading consumers on the hazardous nature of their fertilizer products, which contain sewage sludge (often referred to as biosolids) contaminated with per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The group filed two cases, [Beyond Pesticides v. Miracle-Gro Co.](#) and [Beyond Pesticides v. GreenTechnologies, LLC](#), in D.C. Superior Court on October 25, 2024. The complaint alleges that, as part of their marketing, these companies tell consumers that their fertilizers are “eco-friendly” and “sustainable,” when, in fact, the products contain hazardous substances. The complaint cites test results showing PFAS residues in the companies’ fertilizers and numerous scientific studies on the adverse effects of PFAS to public health, wildlife, and pollinators.

PFAS, known as “forever chemicals” due to their ability to persist in the environment, are endocrine disruptors linked to developmental issues, cancers, metabolic, cardiovascular and reproductive harm, damage to the liver, kidneys, and the respiratory system, as well increased chances of disease infection and severity. The chemicals’ immunotoxic effects threaten human health.

Beyond Pesticides alleges that consumers are, thus, misled by advertising in which Scotts Miracle-Gro describes its product ingredients as “organic matter and recycled nutrients,” despite the presence of PFAS. Similarly, Beyond Pesticides alleges that consumers are misled by GreenTechnologies’ representations that its product is “a sustainable fertilizer that enhances environmental quality.”

“Companies that market hazardous substances while claiming environmental and health benefits are misleading consumers who seek out products to protect themselves, their families, and the ecosystems in which they live,” said Jay Feldman, executive director of Beyond Pesticides. “Our litigation seeks to put a stop to this deceptive practice in the marketplace, where there are products and practices that are truly healthful and protective of nature,” Mr. Feldman continued.

Beyond Pesticides is seeking injunctive relief under the District of Columbia Consumer Protection Procedures Act, D.C. Code §§ 28-3901-13. Beyond Pesticides is represented by Richman Law & Policy.

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**Beyond Pesticides** is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization headquartered in Washington, D.C., which works with allies in protecting health and the environment with science, policy, and action to lead the transition to a world free of toxic pesticides. Learn more at <https://www.beyondpesticides.org/>.



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