

Organic Land Care *with*



**"If you don't start,
it's certain you won't arrive."**

Unknown

Organic Land Care with SOUL is published ten times per year by the Society for Organic Urban Land Care.

Our Mission:
"To support our communities in their transition to organic practices"

This newsletter is distributed free of charge to all SOUL members. Please feel free to share this publication.

SOUL
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To find an organic land care professional in your area please visit the SOUL website at:
www.organiclandcare.org.

September, 2007

Come to the SOUL AGM!

Join us on Saturday September 8th, at 4pm, at 1744 Lee Avenue (private residence) for an easy hour (if that) of business, followed by an open-ended feast (bring a small potluck contribution). Would you like to help shape SOUL's future? Consider running for the board! Please RSVP to info@organiclandcare.org

Heide Hermary's Book is out!

Once you start, you won't be able to put it down. A groundbreaking and uncompromising work; thoroughly scientific, yet written with contagious passion and courage. "**Working With Nature - Shifting Paradigms**" is a must-have for anyone who is looking for the big picture of organic land care. Books can be ordered directly from Heide at heide.hermary@gaiacollege.ca, phone (250) 709-2229

Upcoming Organic Education Opportunities:

Check out the SOUL or Gaia College web sites for exciting classroom and hands-on learning opportunities such as the first **Organic Master Gardener** Course, the first one-day **Turf** and three-day **Soils** Intensive Courses, and, for the third time, the **Ecological Landscape Design** Course. Free info sessions are going to be held in the first half of September, with courses starting in late September / early October in Victoria, Errington, and in Greater Vancouver. More information at www.gaiacollege.ca.

Scotts Miracle-Gro Sues Small Organic Fertilizer Company

Sued By Scotts, 7/23/2007

The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, a \$2.2 billion assets giant which has at least a 59% share of the relevant market, has sued tiny TerraCycle, Inc., an inner-city company founded by college students to create an eco-friendly business. TerraCycle manufactures all-natural garden products by feeding organic waste to worms and bottling the resulting worm poop compost tea as ready-to use plant food in soda bottles collected by schools and other charities across North America. TerraCycle is located in the Urban Enterprise Zone of Trenton, New Jersey.

Scotts claims that the two companies' products look similar and will confuse customers because some TerraCycle plant foods have a green and yellow label with a circle and a picture of flowers and vegetables on it.

Scotts also objects that TerraCycle says its plant food is as good or better than "a leading synthetic plant food" and is refusing Scotts' demands that TerraCycle hand over its scientific tests conducted at the Rutgers University EcoComplex to Scotts' scientists and lawyers. Scotts refuses to turn its tests over to TerraCycle.

TerraCycle's Answer with Affirmative Defenses and Counterclaims has denied Scotts' claims that TerraCycle's advertising is untrue or that consumers will be confused by TerraCycle packaging. TerraCycle alleges that Scotts' trademark and trade dress claims are being used to maintain its monopoly power when it already has a market share estimated to be between 59% and 85% in published reports. TerraCycle alleges that Scotts has abandoned, misused and/or mutilated its green and yellow box trademark registration and should therefore be cancelled and that Scotts' claims are barred by the doctrine of unclean hands.

TerraCycle's filing includes examples of numerous competitive garden products packaged in green and yellow and of Miracle-Gro®'s use of other color schemes in its packaging.

(This article was originally posted at www.sued-byscotts.com on May 21st, 2007, and was adapted from http://www.organicconsumers.org/articles/article_6207.cfm)



Check out this a short documentary by Vancouver Film School students called "Clean? What you don't know can kill you", drawing attention to the environmental and health impacts of common household cleaning products.

<http://www.georgiastrait.org/curtoxic.php>

Happy toxin-free cleaning!

And while you're there:

Try this link to the issue of fluoride in drinking water, and added to toothpastes etc. Did you know that fluoridation chemicals - sodium fluoride, sodium fluorosilicate, and fluorosilicic acid - are all derived from the manufacture of phosphate fertilizer? <http://healthy.net/scr/news.asp?Id=9005>