

# Scotts Miracle-Gro

Northeast Midwest Institute Panel Briefing June 17, 2013 U.S. Capitol Building - SVC 202 10:30 a.m.

### Scotts Miracle-Gro: One of America's oldest companies a committed and trusted friend of gardeners worldwide



#### Steeped in history ...

- Founded 1868 in Marysville, Ohio
- America's largest marketer of lawn and garden products
- 40 facilities in 23 states; 11 international facilities

Our founders

1868



2013



Civil War veteran

OM Scott:



Horace Hagedorn: Advertising and marketing innovator







#### **Chesapeake Bay: Sparking Water Quality Action**

#### CBP looking for solutions

- Residential fertilizer less than 2% of U.S. fertilizer use
- Low runoff / seep rates
- While not significant, it is not zero
- Opportunities exist to help address overall nutrient load

#### 2006 MOU

- SMG committed to a 50% P reduction over 3 years
- Develop residential stewardship program

#### Chesapeake MOU Response

- Consumers favorable
- Science based: sufficient phosphorus on lawns
- Techniques to retain phosphorus on lawns



Chesapeake Bay Program A Watershed Partnership

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

AMONG

Chesapeake Executive Council, Headwater State Jurisdictions and Members of the Lawn Care Product Manufacturing Industry

REGARDING

The Healthy Lawns and Clean Water Initiative: Reducing Nutrient Losses from Lawns Through a Public-Private Stewardship Partnership

HEREAS, nutrient losses from all contributing activities on developed lands account for about one quarter of the excess phosphorus and one eighth of the excess nitrogen loads entering the Chesapeake Bay;

WHEREAS, nutrient losses from developed lands are continuing to increase due to low- to medium-density development consuming lands at rates five times the rate of population growth;

WHEREAS, much of the loss of nutrients from fertilization of lawns occurs due to misapplication onto drives, sidewalks and curbs, which can best be prevented by a Stewardship Program approach that reduces the amount of material applied/misapplied so it cannot be lost due to off-target application, and

WHEREAS, Members of the Lawn Care Product Manufacturing Industry, represented by The Scotts Company LLC, have been working diligently with the Chesapeake Bay Program and the Land Grant Universities of the watershed to develop a scientifically based, environmentally beneficial and economically viable Stewardship Program to reduce nutrient losses from homeowner fertilized lawns.

#### **Taking Local Action to National Scale**

#### 2011 World Water Day

 SMG committed to phosphorus free lawn products by 2013

#### P-Free Commitment Met

- Reformulated products
- Market leading TurfBuilder
- Remains in starter & organic



## The Columbus Dispatch



## Scotts drops phosphorus from lawn fertilizer

Marysville company acts to reduce risk of runoff feeding toxic-algae blooms in lakes; competitors likely to follow its lead

#### **RELATED ITEMS**

- Scotts subsidiary invests in indoorgardening company
- Heavy rains grow toxic blooms
- Gypsum on fields may cut runoff of phosphorus

#### **ENVIRONMENT BLOG**

OSU says research is 'one giant leap' in answering 'one small step' guestion



something everyone has heard



Scotts Miracle-Gro employee Chris Riehl fertilizes a lawn in Powell. The lawn-care industry accounts for less than 10 percent of the phosphorus dissolved in U.S. waterways.

#### On the Ground Results



As consumers feed their lawns this spring, they should know they can get great results from our products while also protecting and preserving our water resources



2003

Scotts conventional lawn food products contained over ten thousand tons of phosphorus.

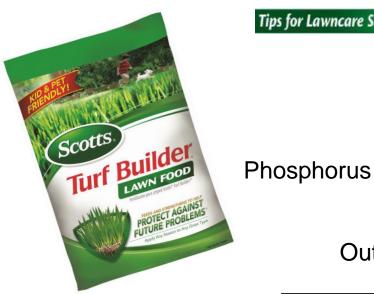




TO HELP PEOPLE OF ALL AGES EXPRESS THEMSELVES
ON THEIR OWN PIECE OF THE EARTH

#### **Beyond Phosphorus: Proactive Integrated Approach**





**Tips for Lawncare Success:** 

- Mow your lawn high. Mowing high allows the grass to develop a deep root system & helps your lawn use water more effectively.
- Leave the grass clippings on your lawn. This recycles the plant nutrients
- Conserve water. Your lawn will begin to will when water is needed. As much as possible, take advantage of nature's sprinkler and rely on the rain to water your lawn.

#### Labeling



**Product** Development





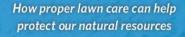




#### **Educating Beyond Traditional Company Channels**













### **Key Consumer Messaging**

- Mow High: Longer grass grows deeper roots, making the lawn better at absorbing water, controlling storm water runoff and managing erosion.
- ✓ Recycle Grass Clippings and Leaves: Clippings and leaves left on the lawn provide a natural way of feeding the lawn.
- ✓ Clean Up: Sweep fertilizers, grass clippings and other materials from hard surfaces back on to the lawn. This keeps nutrients from entering the storm sewers and waterways.
- ✓ Choose a Phosphorus-free Fertilizer: Unless a soil test shows that this nutrient is needed or a new lawn is being planted.

#### **Maximize Water Quality Benefits of Healthy Turf Grass**



Aerial photography of downtown Portland, ME, classified into open space (greens), impervious surfaces (pink), and water (blue)

Consider residential lawns as green infrastructure to buffer impervious surfaces and improve water quality:

- Reduces stormwater runoff
- ✓ Reduces soil erosion (sediment)
- ✓ Reduces nutrient losses
- ✓ Increases groundwater recharge

#### **Building a Corporate-wide Sustainability Initiative**

**Products** – continuously strive to develop products that are simple, sustainable and significant

**Operations** – reduce the Company's environmental footprint, with a focus on reducing waste going to landfills and carbon emissions



**Outreach** – educate consumers about the proper ways to care for lawns and gardens to protect the environment

**Associates** – leverage the talents, skills and interests of associates to bring sustainability ideas to life in their work, at home and in their communities

**Community** – support the creation of public and private gardens and green spaces



#### **Products: Scotts Miracle-Gro is Largest Naturals & Organics Marketer**









## 2014 Relaunch

Test markets: FL, IL, OH, TX May need Congressional help bringing products to market

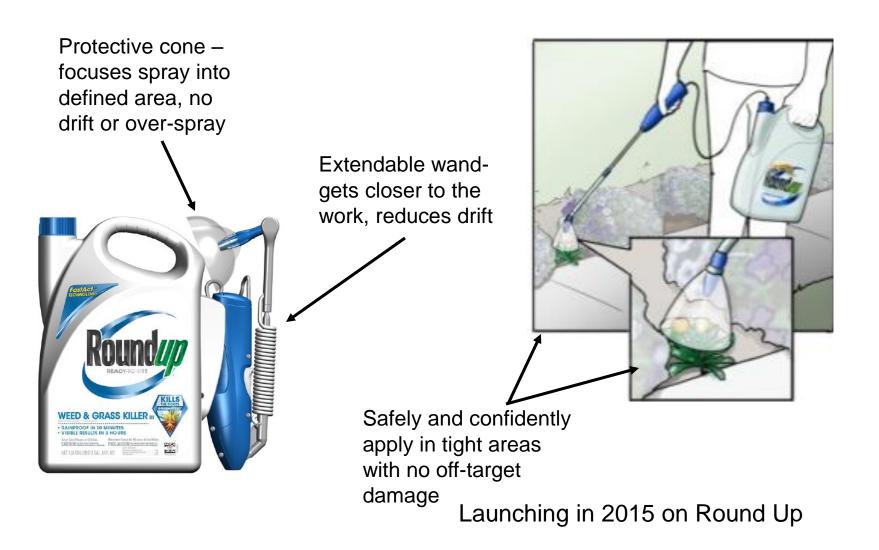


## **UC-Davis / Marrone Bio**

New research agreements in place to develop residential consumer natural pesticides



## Extended Wand Applicator for Round Up Provides highly controlled application for use in gardens & landscape



### **Growing Media Products: Largest Recycler of Green Waste**

Annually Scotts recycles 5 billion pounds of green waste into our products



#### **Implementing**

Woody biomass/natural materials: offset 30% of Canadian sphagnum peat moss

Eucalyptus plantation source to compete with use of cypress in Florida mulch market

### **Testing**

Variety of pelletized agricultural wastes

# Operations: Reducing Our Environmental Footprint Measuring from 2010 baseline, operational goals targeted to 2018 – Company's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Goal: 20% reduction in Green House Gas emissions

Status: 5% reduction

First Solar Array: Jackson, GA

Goal: 50% reduction in waste to landfill

Status: 16% reduction



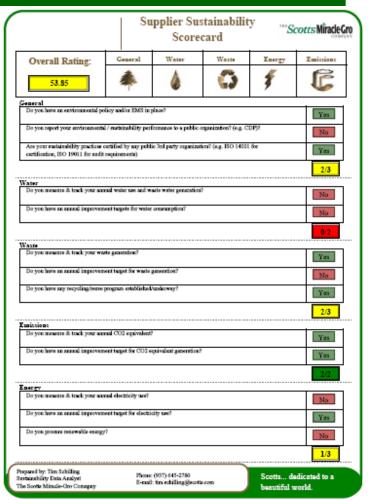
# Operations: Reducing Our Environmental Footprint Measuring from 2010 baseline, operational goals targeted to 2018 – Company's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Goal: 90% of suppliers meet sustainability thresholds

Status: 41% of suppliers meet thresholds

Goal: 30% PCR/FSC content Status: 28% PCR/FSC content

Removed almost 4 million pounds of material (mostly plastic and paper) from product production in 2012 – saving \$1.6 million



### **Outreach: Address Critical Issues Through Partnerships**

#### **2012 PROGRAM RESULTS**

- Founded public-private coalition in response to water crisis in Texas.
- Consumer insights drove messaging.
- Media & PR/Press Coverage in 5 priority DMAs.
  - Launched TexasWaterSmart.com





#### **RESULTS WERE POSITIVE:**

- √ 80%+ awareness of conservation campaign
- √ 81% met or exceeded 10% water reduction goal\*
- ✓ Built relationships between key influencers in TX



## Community: Establish 1,000 Community Gardens & Greenspaces by 2018 Help Communities Grow Healthy Foods and Outdoor Activities



## GR01000°

#### Large Grant Program

5 Showcase Grants annually

\$25,000 in funding and product

Apply through U.S. Conference of Mayors

#### **Small Grant Program**

130 Grassroots Grants annually

\$500 - \$1,500 in funding

Apply online through Scotts: www.grogood.com/givebacktogro/gro1000

#### Federal Policy – Farm Bill & TSCA

## Farm Bill

Continue incentives to reduce nutrients, establish whole farm plans

Encourage community/urban gardening efforts:

- Health benefits: fresh food
- Landscape restoration

Advance alternative uses of agricultural waste:

- Technology advancement/investment
- Regional scale

## **TSCA**

Maintain science-based review process

Protect innovation / route to market with new materials

Prioritize review of submissions intended to replace existing technology

#### Obtain More Information and Share Your Feedback

#### Visit **GroGood.com**

- Corporate Responsibility Reports.
- GRO1000 grant applications
- Quarterly e-newsletter sign-up



**@SMG\_GroGood** for updates on Sustainability and Corporate Responsibility efforts

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For lawn care best management practices to protect water quality:

- Great Lakes focus: www.lawnsandlakes.com
- NACD landowner contact education materials: www.ofswcd.org/BackyardConservation

