

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

California Safe Drinking Water
and Toxic Enforcement Act

Lead Exposures from Artificial Grass

June 23, 2008

This Notice of Violation is provided to you pursuant to and in compliance with California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d).

- For general information regarding the California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act, see the attached summary provided by the California EPA (copies not provided to public enforcement agencies).
- This Notice of Violation is provided by the Center for Environmental Health ("CEH"), 528 61st Street, Suite A, Oakland, CA 94609, (510) 594-9864. CEH is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to protecting the environment, improving human health and supporting environmentally sound practices. Michael Green is the Executive Director of and a responsible individual within CEH.

Description of Violation:

- Violator: The names and addresses of the violators are attached hereto as Exhibit 1.
- Time Period of Exposure: The violations have been occurring since at least June 23, 2005, and are ongoing.
- Provision of Proposition 65: This Notice of Violation covers the "warning provision" of Proposition 65, which is found at California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6.
- Chemical(s) Involved: The names of the listed chemicals involved in these violations are lead and lead compounds ("Lead"). Exposures to Lead occur from use of the product identified in this notice.
- Type of Product: The specific type of products causing these violations is artificial and/or synthetic grass and turf ("Artificial Grass"). This Artificial Grass is made of and contains Lead. Non-exclusive examples of this specific type of product are attached hereto as Exhibit 2.
- Type of Exposure: This notice addresses consumer product exposures to Lead.
- Description of Exposure: Use of the products identified in this notice results in human exposures to Lead. The route of exposure for the violations is ingestion via hand to mouth contact after consumers touch or handle the products, and dermal absorption directly through the skin when consumers touch or handle the

products as well as walk or crawl on the products. These exposures occur in homes, workplaces, parks, schools, playgrounds, sports fields, and everywhere else throughout California where these products are handled or used. No clear and reasonable warning is provided with these products regarding the carcinogenic or reproductive hazards of Lead.

Resolution of Noticed Claims:

- Based on the allegations set forth in this Notice, CEH intends to file a citizen enforcement lawsuit against the alleged violator unless such violator enters into a binding written agreement to: (1) recalling products already sold; (2) remove the Lead from the product identified in this notice; (3) provide clear and reasonable warnings to all consumers of the product identified in this notice; and (4) pay an appropriate civil penalty based on the factors enumerated in California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(b). If the alleged violator is interested in resolving this dispute without resort to expensive and time-consuming litigation, please feel free to contact CEH through its counsel identified below. It should be noted that CEH cannot: (1) finalize any settlement until after the 60-day notice period has expired; nor (2) speak for the Attorney General or any District or City Attorney who received CEH's 60-day Notice. Therefore, while reaching an agreement with CEH will resolve its claims, such agreement may not satisfy the public prosecutors.

Please direct any inquiries regarding this notice to CEH and its counsel Mark N. Todzo at Lexington Law Group, LLP, 1627 Irving Street, San Francisco, CA 94122, (415) 759-4111.

**Exhibit 1: List of Violators
June 23, 2008, Notice of Violation
Lead in Artificial Grass**

Ace Hardware Corporation
2200 Kensington Court
Oak Brook, IL 60523-2100

Orchard Supply Hardware Corporation
6450 Via Del Oro
San Jose, CA 95119

AstroTurf, LLC
2680 Lakeland Road SE
Dalton, GA 30721-4907

ProGreen International, Inc.
5010 Acoma Street
Denver, CO 80216

Atlas Carpet Mills, Inc.
2200 Saybrook Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90040-1720

Shaw Industries, Inc.
P.O. Drawer 2128
616 E. Walnut Avenue
Dalton, GA 30722-2128

Best Turf for Less, Inc.
33 W. Lincoln Hwy
Suite 408E
Scherverville, IN 46375

Synthetic Turf International, LLC
506-508 Commerce Way
Jupiter, FL 33458

Crystal Products Co., Inc.
2680 Lakeland Road SE
Dalton, GA 30721-4907

Turf Headquarters
P.O. Box 385
Eton, GA 30724

ForeverLawn, Inc.
4500 Bogan Ave. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109

U.S. Turf Company, LLC
9318 E Casitas Del Rio Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

Habitat International, Inc.
8811 Production Lane
Chattanooga, TN 37363-6511

Lowe's Companies, Inc.
1000 Lowe's Blvd.
 Mooresville, NC 28117

Newgrass, LLC
515 Houston Street
Suite 806
Fort Worth, TX 76102

EXHIBIT 2: Non-Exclusive Examples of the Products
June 23, 2008 Notice of Violation
Lead in Artificial Grass

Responsible Parties	Non-Exclusive Examples of the Products
Ace Hardware Corporation	Grass Mat Roll (SKU: 6108435)
AstroTurf, LLC	AstroLawn, Myrtle Beach (ID Code: ALTURFSAMP)
Atlas Carpet Mills, Inc.	Atlas Indoor/Outdoor Carpet, Riviera/Ivy (ID No. 9067B)
Best Turf for Less, Inc.	Dual Color Turf (Super Rye)
Crystal Products Co., Inc.	AstroLawn, Myrtle Beach (ID Code: ALTURFSAMP) SYNLawn Blue
ForeverLawn, Inc.	Playground Grass
Habitat International, Inc.	Habitat International Indoor/Outdoor Grass Rug
Lowe's Companies, Inc.	Top Sail Artificial Grass
Newgrass, LLC	NewGrass LP Rye
Orchard Supply Hardware Corporation	Habitat International Indoor/Outdoor Grass Rug
ProGreen International, Inc.	ProGreen LST 69
Shaw Industries, Inc.	Shaw Outdoor Carpet
Synthetic Turf International, LLC	Polypropylene Putting Surface
Turf Headquarters	BonaRye Artificial Turf Lawn
U.S. Turf Company, LLC	Tour Green

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT
Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d)

I, Mark Todzo, hereby declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged that the parties identified in the notice have violated Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.

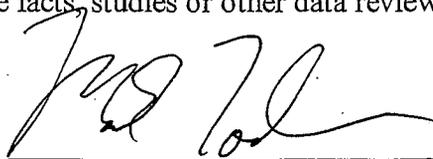
2. I am an attorney with the Lexington Law Group, LLP, and I represent the noticing party, the Center for Environmental Health.

3. Members of my firm and I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who has reviewed facts, studies or other data regarding the exposures to the listed chemical that is the subject of the action.

4. Based on the information obtained through those consultations, and on other information in my possession, I believe there is a reasonable and meritorious case for the private action. I understand that "reasonable and meritorious case for the private action" means that the information provides a credible basis that all elements of the plaintiff's case can be established and the information did not prove that the alleged violators will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute.

5. The copy of the Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General attaches to it factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(h)(2), i.e. (1) the identity of the persons consulted with and relied on by the certifier, and (2) the facts, studies or other data reviewed by those persons.

June 23, 2008



Mark Todzo
Attorney for CENTER FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

PROOF OF SERVICE BY MAIL

I declare that:

I am employed in San Francisco County, California. I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within cause; my business address is 1627 Irving Street, San Francisco, California 94122.

On June 23, 2008, I served true copies of the following documents:

NOTICE OF VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT;

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; and

THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY (only sent to those on service list marked with an asterisks).

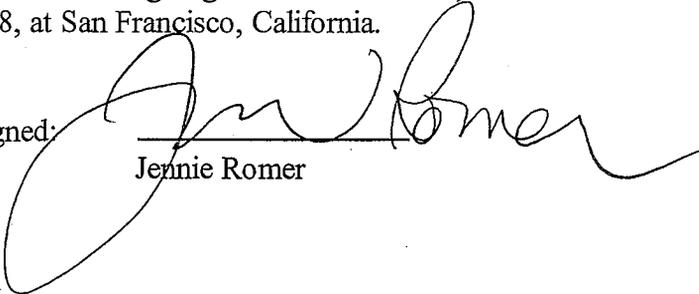
I placed a true copy of this paper in an envelope addressed to:

See Attached Service List.

I am readily familiar with my firm's practice for collection and processing of correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service, to wit, that correspondence will be deposited with the United States Postal Service this same day in the ordinary course of business. I placed the envelope containing the above-mentioned documents for collection and mailing on June 23, 2008, following the ordinary business practice.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on June 23, 2008, at San Francisco, California.

Signed:


Jennie Romer

SERVICE LIST

District Attorney of Alameda
County
1225 Fallon Street, Room 900
Oakland, CA 94612

District Attorney of Colusa
County
547 Market Street
Colusa, CA 95932

District Attorney of Contra
Costa County
627 Ferry Street
Martinez, CA 94553

District Attorney of Alpine
County
P.O. Box 248
Markleeville, CA 96120

District Attorney of Del Norte
County
450 H Street, Ste 171
Crescent City, CA 95531

District Attorney of Amador
County
708 Court Street, #202
Jackson, CA 95642

District Attorney of Butte County
25 County Center Drive
Oroville, CA 95965

District Attorney of El Dorado
County
515 Main Street
Placerville, CA 95667

District Attorney of Calaveras
County
891 Mountain Ranch Road
San Andreas, CA 95249

District Attorney of Fresno
County
2220 Tulare Street, #1000
Fresno, CA 93721

District Attorney of Glenn
County
P.O. Box 430
Willows, CA 95988

District Attorney of Kings
County
1400 West Lacey
Hanford, CA 93230

District Attorney of Lake County
255 N. Forbes Street
Lakeport, CA 95453

District Attorney of Humboldt
County
825 5th Street
Eureka, CA 95501

District Attorney of Imperial
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939 Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243

District Attorney of Lassen County
220 S. Lassen St., Ste 8
Susanville, CA 96130

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P.O. Drawer D
Independence, CA 93526

District Attorney of Los Angeles
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210 W. Temple Street, Room 345
Los Angeles, CA 90012

District Attorney of Madera County
209 West Yosemite Avenue
Madera, CA 93637

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1215 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

District Attorney of Marin County
3501 Civic Center Dr., Room 130
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District Attorney of Mono County
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Bridgeport, CA 93517

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Mariposa, CA 95338

District Attorney of Monterey
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230 Church Street, Bldg. 2
Salinas, CA 93901

District Attorney of Mendocino
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P.O. Box 1000
Ukiah, CA 95482

District Attorney of Napa County
931 Parkway Mall
Napa, CA 94559

District Attorney of Merced
County
2222 "M" Street
Merced, CA 95340

District Attorney of Nevada
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201 Church St., Suite 8
Nevada City, CA 95959

District Attorney of Orange
County
401 Civic Ctr Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

District Attorney of Modoc
County
204 S Court Street
Alturas, CA 96101-4020

District Attorney of Placer County
11562 "B" Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

District Attorney of San
Bernardino County
316 N. Mountain View Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92415

District Attorney of Plumas
County
520 Main Street, Room 404
Quincy, CA 95971

District Attorney of San Diego
County
330 West Broadway, Suite 1320
San Diego, CA 92101

District Attorney of Riverside
County
4075 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92501

District Attorney of San
Francisco County
850 Bryant Street, Rm 325
San Francisco, CA 94103

District Attorney of Sacramento
County
901 "G" Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

District Attorney of San Joaquin
County
P.O. Box 990
Stockton, CA 95201

District Attorney of San Luis
Obispo County
1050 Monterey St, Room 450
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

District Attorney of San Benito
County
419 Fourth Street, 2nd Floor
Hollister, CA 95023

District Attorney of San Mateo
County
400 County Ctr, 3rd Fl
Redwood City, CA 94063

District Attorney of Sierra
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Courthouse, P.O. Box 457
Downieville, CA 95936

District Attorney of Santa
Barbara County
1105 Santa Barbara Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

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Yreka, CA 96097

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Fairfield, CA 94533

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Santa Cruz, CA 95060

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600 Administration Drive, Room
212J
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

District Attorney of Shasta
County
1525 Court Street, Third Floor
Redding, CA 96001-1632

District Attorney of Stanislaus
County
800 11th Street, Room 200
PO BOX 442
Modesto, CA 95353

District Attorney of Sutter County
446 Second Street
Yuba City, CA 95991

District Attorney of Ventura
County
800 South Victoria Ave
Ventura, CA 93009

District Attorney of Tehama
County
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Red Bluff, CA 96080

District Attorney of Yolo County
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Woodland, CA 95695

District Attorney of Trinity County
P.O. Box 310
11 Court Street
Weaverville, CA 96093

District Attorney of Yuba County
215 Fifth Street
Marysville, CA 95901

District Attorney of Tulare County
221 S. Mooney Ave, Room 224
Visalia, CA 93291

District Attorney of Tuolumne
County
423 No. Washington Street
Sonora, CA 95370

San Jose City Attorney's Office
200 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA 95113

Los Angeles City Attorney's Office
800 City Hall East
200 N. Main Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

San Diego City Attorney's Office
1200 3rd Avenue #1620
San Diego, CA 92101

San Francisco City Attorney's
Office
City Hall, Room 234
San Francisco, CA 94102

California Attorney General's
Office
Attention: Proposition 65
Coordinator
1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000
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Oakland, CA 94612

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Dalton, GA 30721-4907

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Los Angeles, CA 90040-1720

President *
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