



Fwd: Ban the use of toxic biosolids as fertilizer and compost

Office of the City Clerk <cityclerk@lacity.org>

Mon, Jul 15, 2024 at 8:01 AM

To: City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Pamela Gibberman** <pgibberman@gmail.com>

Date: Sat, Jul 13, 2024 at 4:33 PM

Subject: Ban the use of toxic biosolids as fertilizer and compost

To: Ms. Holly Wolcott <CityClerk@lacity.org>

Dear Ms. Wolcott,

I urge you to institute an immediate moratorium on the land application of biosolids and prohibit the sale of compost, fertilizer, or other agricultural products and materials containing sludge and septage.

The use of toxic PFAS-laden sewage sludge as fertilizers and compost has led to the contamination of soil and water, and in turn, food, across the nation.

Thousands of farms covering millions of acres are likely contaminated, with PFAS chemicals making their way into farm animals and crops, in some documented cases, at levels thousands of times higher than what is deemed safe. Tests have shown vegetables, meat, milk and eggs may be poisoned with PFAS.

Not even certified organic farms, which are prohibited from using biosolids, have escaped the crisis. Many organic farms that were once under conventional production have been found to be contaminated. PFAS chemicals, also known as Forever Chemicals, do not break down in the natural environment and can linger in soil for, theoretically, forever.

Municipalities and for-profit companies have also sold and distributed compost and fertilizers made from biosolids to homes and businesses for landscaping needs, further exposing communities to harmful PFAS.

Local municipalities have played a role in promoting toxic fertilizers and compost made from biosolids as a waste management strategy. Now, municipalities must correct their misguided policies.

Because of federal inaction, this problem has become a devastating crisis. Every day that passes means more cancer, more sickness, more disease. Municipalities must take action to ban biosolids NOW.

Sincerely,

Pamela Gibberman

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