

# STOP THE SOIL AMENDMENT LOOPHOLE

*A loophole in the Georgia Soil Amendment Regulations is tying the hands of regulators and must be fixed. Currently, soil amendments can still be deposited at a site that has been cited by EPD or Dept of Ag for illegal polluting activity.*

## OVERVIEW

*Current Georgia law has a gaping hole when it comes to soil amendments. The law does not provide the ability for GA EPD to stop the application of a bad actor's soil amendment material onto a site - even when there is an ongoing enforcement action triggered by contamination from their behavior.*

*The lack of enforcement power leaves small communities unprotected from the ongoing abuses from bad actors.*

*This has led to multiple sites throughout Georgia where large amounts of animal processing byproducts, fats, and others waste are applied abusively.*

*These sites are causing dangerous fly infestations, contaminating our waterways, and making people and livestock ill.*

*Legislative action is needed to restore balance and protect the livelihood and health of Georgia families.*

SUPPORT

HB 1223

Soil amendments in Georgia are defined as anything that changes the physical property of soil to facilitate a better growing environment. They are not fertilizers.

Regulated by the Agriculture Dept. this program has taken over 500 industrial and municipal waste streams (i.e. animal processing waste) and reclassified them as a recycled product. The "product" is then applied directly to the soil without oversight throughout rural Georgia.

### SUPPORT HB 1223-

HB 1223 makes it illegal to continue to apply soil amendments if a site is under an enforcement action from the GA Environmental Protection Division or the GA Dept Of Agriculture.



**Contact [gordon@flinriverkeeper.org](mailto:gordon@flinriverkeeper.org) to sign on or support this much-needed legislation and our waterways today!**