

**For Immediate Release:**

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**Christiane Schmenk Named Chief Legal Counsel***Marysville mayor to join Ohio Department of Development*

**Columbus**—Christiane Schmenk of Marysville has been named chief legal counsel for the Ohio Department of Development, effective March 14.

Schmenk, 51, serves part-time as Mayor of the City of Marysville and is director of external affairs for the Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, also in Marysville.

“We’re very happy to have Chris join us. She brings a strong mix of public- and private-sector experience that will be valuable,” said Mark D. Kvamme, Director of the Ohio Department of Development.

Schmenk has held a number of other positions with Scott’s since joining the company in 1993 as director of legal affairs. She also has served as director of government and community affairs and environmental stewardship, as well as vice president and chief ethics and compliance officer.

She previously practiced law with Buckley, King and Bluso, LLP in Columbus and was in-house corporate counsel with Wendy’s International, Inc.

Schmenk holds a law degree from The Ohio State University and a B.A. degree in history and political science from Ohio Northern University. She was the 2010 winner of the Jo Ann Davidson Leadership Award (Ohio Republican Woman of the Year).

She has agreed to continue serving as Marysville mayor until April or May. Until she has relinquished mayoral duties and her position with Scott’s, she will abstain from Development Department work involving Marysville, Union County, and Scott’s Miracle-Gro.

*Working with our partners across business, state and local governments, academia, and the nonprofit sector, the **Ohio Department of Development** works to attract, create, grow, and retain businesses through competitive incentives and targeted investments. Engaged every day in marketing, innovating, investing, and collaborating, the **Ohio Department of Development** works at the speed of business to accelerate and support the teamwork that is necessary for success by providing financial, informational, and technical assistance to those making an investment in Ohio’s future.*

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