


Starbucks accused of exposing customers to pesticide in New York

 [dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7055511/Starbucks-accused-exposing-customers-pesticide-New-York.html](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7055511/Starbucks-accused-exposing-customers-pesticide-New-York.html)

Starbucks has been accused of using dangerous pesticides to control filthy conditions within multiple New York stores, according to class action lawsuits filed against the coffee chain.

The two lawsuits filed in state and federal court on Tuesday allege that management at some Manhattan locations have exposed customers to a pesticide toxin that isn't meant to be deployed around food or people.

The toxin named in the lawsuit is known as DDVP pesticide and it is contained in No-Pest Strips that have allegedly been used in some Starbucks locations.

One of the lawsuits includes photos of the No-Pest Strips located in areas where food is stored, near air vents and close to food preparation equipment.



The lawsuit claims that the strips are only supposed to be used in unoccupied buildings.

Exposure to DDVP can cause loss of bladder control, muscle tremors, labored breathing, nausea, anxiety, diarrhea, muscle weakness, convulsions and paralysis, according to the suit.

In the worst scenario, DDVP exposure can result in a coma, inability to breath and even death.

Management at the Starbucks locations have allegedly ignored repeated warnings about the dangers, according to the lawsuits.

Two pest control technicians and a former employee are among those behind the lawsuit.



One ex-employee claims he was fired in February 2018 after complaining about the strips.

The pest control technicians claim they had their contract terminated in June last year after they also complained.

A Starbucks spokesman said the strips were being used against company policy and they were removed immediately after they became aware of the complaints.

Starbucks said they hired an expert to investigate and later determine that no customers or employees had their health put at risk.

'The lawsuit filed by the plaintiffs and their attorneys lacks merit. Simply put it is an attempt to incite public fear for their own financial gain,' the spokesman said.

Douglas H. Wigdor, a lawyer from one of the firms representing the case, said: 'New Yorkers deserve to know what they are putting in their bodies and we call upon Starbucks to explain, as we allege in the complaint, its failure to take appropriate care for its customers' well-being.'

