

TRACTOR SUPPLY CO /DE/  
Form 8-K  
March 07, 2017

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported): March 6, 2017 (March 1, 2017)

Tractor Supply Company

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(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 000-23314 13-3139732  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) (Commission File Number) (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

5401 Virginia Way, Brentwood, Tennessee 37027  
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (615) 440-4000

Not Applicable

Former name or former address, if changed since last report

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))



Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

Appointment of Kurt D. Barton as Senior Vice President - Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

On March 6, 2017, the Company announced that Kurt D. Barton, age 45, assumed the role of Senior Vice President - Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of the Company following the retirement of Anthony F. Crudele.

Mr. Barton joined the Company in August 1999 and has served as the Company's Corporate Controller since 2009. In that role Mr. Barton had direct responsibility for the Company's accounting, financial reporting, tax, purchasing, master data management, accounts payable and inventory control functions and was an integral part of the Company's corporate finance and strategy team. Mr. Barton was promoted to Senior Vice President in 2016. Mr. Barton also served as Director, Internal Audit from 2002 to 2009 and held other leadership roles in accounting during his tenure with the Company. Mr. Barton, a Certified Public Accountant, began his career in public accounting in 1993, spending six years at Ernst & Young, LLP.

A copy of the press release announcing Mr. Barton's appointment is included herewith as Exhibit 99.1.

Change in Control Agreements

On March 1, 2017, Tractor Supply Company (the "Company") and each of Steve K. Barbarick, Chad M. Frazell, Robert D. Mills and Benjamin F. Parrish, Jr. entered into a Change in Control Agreement (the "Change in Control Agreement"). On March 6, 2017, the Company and Kurt D. Barton also entered into a Change in Control Agreement. The Change in Control Agreements replace the prior change in control agreements which expired by their terms on February 28, 2017. Pursuant to the Change in Control Agreement, if an executive officer's employment is terminated during the term of the agreement following a change of control of the Company other than (a) by the Company for cause, (b) by reason of death, disability or retirement or (c) by the executive officer without good reason (as such terms are defined in the agreement), the executive will receive: (i) an amount equal to 1.5 times the annual base salary and the average of the executive's annual bonus(es) or award(s) for the three fiscal years pursuant to any bonus plan for the years preceding the date of termination or, if higher, the years preceding the change in control payable in a lump sum, in cash; (ii) an amount equal to the estimated cost of procuring for the executive and his dependents life, disability, accident and health insurance benefits for a period of two years following the date of termination payable in a lump sum, in cash; (iii) outplacement services capped at \$40,000; (iv) a pro-rata portion equal to the average of the executive's actual annual bonus(es) or award(s) received by the executive under any cash bonus plan in the three most recent fiscal years which occurred immediately prior to the date of termination payable in a lump sum, in cash; (v) the stock options outstanding at the date of termination will become fully vested and continue to be exercisable until the earlier of (a) the second anniversary of the date of termination or (b) the otherwise applicable expiration date of the term of such option, or, at the Company's election, may be canceled upon lump sum payment of the cash equivalent of the excess of the fair market value of the related options; and (vi) the restricted stock units outstanding at the date of termination will become fully vested or, at the Company's election may be canceled upon lump sum payment of the cash equivalent of the fair market value of the related stock. Each executive must commit to be employed with the Company for six months following a change in control. In addition, the executives have agreed, for a period of 18 months following termination of employment by the Company after a change in control, not to compete with the Company's business, solicit or hire any of the Company's employees, disparage the Company or disclose any confidential information or trade secrets of the Company.

The foregoing description of the Change in Control Agreement is a summary and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Change in Control Agreement, which is filed as Exhibit 10.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K and is incorporated into this Item 5.02 by reference.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

10.1 Form of Change in Control Agreement by and between Tractor Supply Company and each of Steve K. Barbarick,  
Kurt D. Barton, Chad M. Frazell, Robert D. Mills and Benjamin F. Parrish, Jr.  
99.1 Press release dated March 6, 2017

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Tractor Supply Company

March 6, 2017 By: /s/ Kurt D. Barton

Name: Kurt D. Barton

Title: Senior Vice President - Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer



EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit<br>No. | Description   |
|----------------|---|
| 10.1           | Form of Change in Control Agreement by and between Tractor Supply Company and each of Steve K. Barbarick, Kurt D. Barton, Chad M. Frazell, Robert D. Mills and Benjamin F. Parrish, Jr. |
| 99.1           | Press release dated March 6, 2017   |