TURA Program Update - September 2020

Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction

COVID-19 Pandemic

Note that all upcoming events are planned as virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the necessity for social distancing. Please check TURI's website for on-going updates on events and resources, and feel free to contact TURI, OTA or MassDEP staff with any questions. For the latest news, we encourage you to sign up for program newsletters from TURI (www.turi.org) and OTA (https://www.mass.gov/orgs/office-of-technical-assistance-and-technology-ota).

Upcoming Meetings and Events

- Webinar-based Fall Continuing Education Conference – Save the Dates: Oct 27 and Nov 5
- Morgan Advanced Materials Virtual Demo Site Visit - Sep 10, 1PM-2PM; Morgan received a TURI grant and switched from using TCE in a vapor degreaser to remove wax, to an aqueous system.
- Science Advisory Board Meeting, Sept 30, 12PM-3:30PM; Agenda includes introduction to the Nanomaterials Petition and Quaternary Ammonium Compounds

Recent Events

- River Street Metal Finishing Virtual Demo Site Visit, Braintree, MA; River Street received a TURI grant to implement an acid purification system to reduce use of sulfuric acid.
- Safer Cleaning and Disinfection for schools Webinar with Massachusetts experts; Aug 14, 2020
- Riverdale Mills: Reduces Toxics in Coating Process Virtual Demo Site Visit, Northbridge, MA; wire mesh manufacturer used a TURI grant to design a brush roller system to reduce dragout and prevent bath contamination; June 25, 2020
- Spring Continuing Education sessions - see presentations from spring webinar sessions on effective planning, PFAS (including slides 6-14 on the NDAA TRI listing of 172 PFAS chemicals), economic evaluation methods and the Pharos Chemical and Material Library.

MassDEP COVID-19 filing deadline extension

- https://www.mass.gov/guides/massdep-toxics-use-reduction-program
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, MassDEP will treat as timely any Toxics Use Reduction (TUR) Report and Plan Summary filed up to 120 days after the original July 1, 2020, deadline (or by **November 1, 2020**).
- All other TUR requirements under M.G.L. Chapter 21I and 310 CMR 50.000 remain in effect, and the facilities subject to them must to continue to comply, as well as operate in a manner that is protective of public health and the environment.
- Planner Certification: A Planner with a TURP certification (or recertification) that expires prior to July 10, 2020, should file a recertification application prior to **October 1, 2020**. A Planner with a TURP certification (or recertification) that expires on or after July 10, 2020, should file a recertification application prior to the date of its expiration.

Resources Related to COVID-19 Safer Cleaning and Disinfecting

- See TURI's website: https://www.turi.org/Our_Work/Cleaning_Laboratory/COVID-19_Safely_Clean_Disinfect
- Guidance for Businesses: Find information about safer cleaning and disinfecting, and tools such as log and checklist templates.
- The TURI lab is testing efficacy of safer disinfectant chemistries and devices. Stay tuned for results!
- Asthma and Chemicals fact sheet: a focus on cleaning, disinfection and sterilization, in English and Portuguese.

OTA update

- OTA staff have offered free and confidential virtual site visits to Massachusetts businesses via zoom. Download a listing of OTA contacts by industry.

Last Updated Sep 8, 2020

TURA Program Staff Changes

- Caredwen Foley has joined OTA managing communications and outreach. She brings a broad background in communications and public health; see her bio on OTA's staff page. Welcome Caredwen!

Recent Publications

- Assessment of alternatives to cleaners and sanitizers for the brewing industry - TURI publication providing technical, financial, environmental, health and safety, and basic regulatory information on alternatives to traditional cleaners and sanitizers
- Artificial Turf Fact Sheet Includes Ways to Prevent Heat Hazards

Video

- Why Become a TUR Planner? A mother –daughter perspective https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kXwcu_BI9_U
- TURI Overview - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rEEg7Mdv_8Y

TURI Youtube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVzI_YequDRGua8K_zGXISA

- Siemens Finds Safer Surfactant with Help from UMass Lowell Researchers
- Lytron Reduces TCE Emissions by 6,000 Pounds
- Assabet Valley Technical High School Replaces Solvents with Safer Solutions

Guidance Update

The TUR Plan and Plan Guidance is updated as of December 2019.
https://www.mass.gov/lists/massdep-toxics-use-reduction-policies-guidance

New Reportable Substances for Reporting Year 2019

For **TURA reporting year 2019** (see MassDEP note above regarding filing deadline), covered industry sectors that use a category of chemicals known as C1-C4 Halogenated Hydrocarbons/Halocarbons Not Otherwise Listed (C1-C4 NOL) will need to report usage in 2020. Additional guidance is provided in Appendix B of the Reporting Instructions.

Companies in covered industry sectors that use chemicals in this category should track their use during calendar year 2019 and, if their total use of these substances exceeds the reporting threshold, they must submit TURA reports by July 1, 2020. The reporting threshold for the C1-C4 NOL category is 25,000 pounds if the substances are incorporated into products or manufactured and 10,000 pounds if they are otherwise used. (See Session E: presentations from Spring 2019 CE Conference)

New Reportable Substances for Reporting Year 2020

Nonylphenol ethoxylates (NPEs) TRI/EPCRA category

- Category of 13 specific NPEs
- TRI/Federal: First reports due July 1, 2020 (for RY2019)
- TURA/State: First reports due July 1, 2021 (for RY 2020)

New Federally Reportable Substances under TRI for Reporting Year 2020

PFAS TRI listings as required by the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA 2020)

- EPA has identified 172 PFAS chemicals that have been added to TRI/federal reporting for 2020 reporting year, as required in the NDAA 2020 legislation. See EPA's website for more information. EPA's regulations have been published in the federal register (85 FR 37354).

PFAS Resources

Last Updated Sep 8, 2020

- OTA has created a downloadable supplier notification template letter to assist industries identify potential products that may contain the 172 PFAS chemicals recently added to the EPA Toxics Release Inventory.
- OTA is working with MassDEP and EPA to provide free and confidential technical assistance to potential PFAS-using industries upstream from wastewater treatment plants.
- The Science Advisory Board finalized their recommendation on a category of PFAS substances in June; TURI is updating the policy analysis and will issue a new draft later in September. Additional information from the SAB deliberations is on TURI's website.
- AFFF Alternatives Assessment - The Lowell Center for Sustainable Production and TURI have received a DoD SERDP grant to help the DoD to make informed, efficient choices about alternatives to aqueous film-forming foams (AFFF), a fluorinated product used in firefighting.

Upcoming virtual conference events of interest

- Green Chemistry and Commerce Council Sep 22-24, 2020
- A4 Symposium Oct 20-22, 2020 – Association for the Advancement of Alternatives Assessment

For more information, contact the TURA program. E-mail addresses are available on our websites and are the preferred method of communication while we are all working remotely:

- OTA: https://www.mass.gov/service-details/otas-team
- MassDEP: Lynn Cain, lynn.cain@mass.gov or Walter Hope, walter.hope@mass.gov
- TURI: https://www.turi.org/About/Staff_List