TURI
TOXICS USE REDUCTION INSTITUTE
UMASS LOWELL
Toxics Use Reduction Institute Newsletter

May 2016

TURI Seeks Grant Proposals in All Categories

TURI encourages Massachusetts businesses, community groups, municipalities and UMass researchers to apply for grants that will fund toxics use reduction projects. Submit your application by June 17, 2016. The grant categories include:

- Industry Grants of up to $30,000 are intended for manufacturing facilities to improve processes or install technology that results in reducing toxics. Contact Pam Eliason or visit www.turi.org/industrygrants.
- Small Business Grants of up to $10,000 are intended for businesses that provide services directly to consumers. Contact Joy Onasch or visit www.turi.org/smallbusinessgrants.
- Academic Research Grants of up to $25,000 are available to UMass faculty and their graduate students to partner with Massachusetts companies on researching safer alternatives to toxic chemicals. Contact Pam Eliason or visit www.turi.org/academicresearchgrants.
- Community Grants of up to $20,000 for regional or statewide projects and $10,000 for local projects. Contact Joy Onasch or visit www.turi.org/communitygrants.

Continuing Education Conference Highlights

The TUR Planner Continuing Education Conference held in Chicopee on April 14 featured keynote speaker Dr. Jo Ann Ratto,
Polymer Research Engineer with the U.S. Army Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center, (NSRDEC) Natick.

Upcoming TURA Events

TRI/TURA Reporting Workshops

May 10 - Fitchburg
May 26 - Chicopee
June 2 - Newburyport

More information.

TURA Champions of Toxics Use Reduction

June 8, 2016
Massachusetts State House
The Great Hall
11:00 AM

More information.

Other Events

Late Lessons from Early Warnings about Hazards to Health and Environment

May 18, 2016
6:00 to 8:00 PM
UTEC Lowell
35 Warren Street

Presented By: David Gee, Visiting Fellow
Institute of Environment, Health, and Societies
Brunel University, London

There is no charge for this event.

More information.

The Central Massachusetts Business Environmental Network (CMBEN): Safety Updates and Resources

May 25, 2016

As the Director for Advanced Materials and Polymers (CAMP) at NSRDEC, she is leading the effort to maintain and build collaborations with industry, academia and government laboratories on polymer film processing and characterization with a special emphasis on military ration packaging.

Other conference sessions included ISO 1400 and related standards, water conservation, process modernization, and combined heat and power. View the conference presentations.

The Massachusetts Chemistry & Technology Alliance collaborated with the TURA program on portions of the conference.

9:00 - 11:00 A.M.
AbbVie Inc.
100 Research Drive
Worcester, MA 01605

More information.

New Paper on Alternatives Assessments for Nanomaterials

TURI Director Mike Ellenbecker is a coauthor on a recent article on alternatives assessments for nanomaterials, The Applicability of Chemical Alternatives Assessment for Engineered Nanomaterials. The use of alternatives assessment to substitute hazardous chemicals with inherently safer options is gaining momentum worldwide as a legislative and corporate strategy to minimize consumer, occupational, and environmental risks.

Engineered nanomaterials represent an interesting case for alternatives assessment approaches because they can be considered both emerging "chemicals" of concern as well as potentially safer alternatives to hazardous chemicals. However, comparing the hazards of nanomaterials to traditional chemicals or to other nanomaterials is challenging, and critical elements in chemical hazard and exposure assessment may have to be fundamentally altered to sufficiently address nanomaterials. The aim of this paper is to assess the overall applicability of alternatives assessment methods for nanomaterials and to outline recommendations to enhance their use in this context. Read the paper.

SAB Call for Information

The Science Advisory Board (SAB) will be reviewing hazard information on dibutoxymethane (the solvent in Kreussler's dry cleaning product, Solvon K4) beginning with their May 18 meeting. If you have information that you think would be useful, please contact Heather Tenney at TURI.

Last chance: MassDEP Offers TURA Amnesty for Voluntary Disclosure

The MassDEP is offering a TURA amnesty until **June 30, 2016** for facilities that voluntarily disclose a past failure to file one or more TURA chemical use reports. The amnesty substantially reduces the required fees and substitutes a warning letter for a notice of noncompliance for these facilities. The facilities must self disclose to qualify for the amnesty. However, if MassDEP discovers that your facility is not in compliance via audit or inspection, you will not be eligible for amnesty. To take advantage of the amnesty program, please contact Walter Hope of MassDEP at (617) 292-5982. Read the amnesty terms.

TURI offers services & programs to reduce the use of toxic chemicals, energy and water while enhancing the competitiveness of Massachusetts businesses.

Visit us at our website, at Facebook, or at our offices on the UMass Lowell campus.