



Toxics Use Reduction Institute Newsletter

January 2018

CBS News Features Safer Paint Stripping Product



Greg Morose was interviewed by CBS News Correspondent Anna Werner about a safer paint stripping formulation.

The work of UMass Lowell's researchers caught the attention of CBS News correspondent Anna Werner, who is producing a series about the dangers of methylene chloride found in most paint stripping products. She visited UMass Lowell in December to interview Mike Ellenbecker and Greg Morose. [The segment aired on Jan. 2 on CBS This Morning.](#)

In the interview, Morose demonstrated an alternative solution developed at UMass Lowell using a test board with seven layers of primer, paint and polyurethane that was baked to simulate coatings that are difficult to remove. He showed that the safer alternative lifted all layers of paint within 20 minutes.

[Watch the CBS segment.](#)

[Read the UMass Lowell story.](#)

Walker's Gymnastics & Dance in Lowell Replaces Flame Retardant Pit Cubes

With the help of a [TURI small business grant](#), [Walker's Gymnastics & Dance](#) in Lowell recently received a delivery of flame retardant-free foam pit cubes. Small business owner Janine Walsh says: "For all these years, we were not aware of flame retardants and any chemical product involved in gymnastics equipment whatsoever."

Over a decade of research indicates that some flame retardants can harm the developing brain,

Upcoming Events

Beyond the MSDS Workshop

Friday, Feb. 9

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.,

Lowell (TUR Planners will receive 2 CE credits)

[Learn more and register](#)

Webinar: Artificial Turf Alternatives Webinar

Tues., February 27

Noon to 1 p.m.

[Learn more and register.](#)

Administrative Council Meeting

Wed., Feb. 28, 1 to 3 p.m.

Boston

[Learn more.](#)

Science Advisory Board Meeting

Wed., March 7, Noon to 3:30 p.m.

Boston

[Learn more.](#)

Spring 2018 Continuing Education Conference

Save the Date: Wed., April 25, Courtyard Boston, Marlborough.

Webinar: Safer Solutions for Methylene Chloride

Tuesday, June 5

Noon to 1 p.m.

[Learn more and register.](#)

Spring 2018 Chemical Safety & Climate Change Preparedness Trainings



have been linked to cancer as well as reproductive health issues, and several are considered endocrine disruptors. The CDC recently published the report ["Flame Retardants in Four Gymnastics Studios."](#)

Read the story about Walker's Gymnastics in the Lowell Sun ["For Lowell gym, there's no](#)

[place like \(new, safe\) foam."](#)

The Office of Technical Assistance (OTA) is conducting Chemical Safety and Climate Change Preparedness workshops in partnership with Regional Planning Agencies beginning on March 1 in Lowell.

[View all workshops dates and locations.](#)

TURI has Moved to the Offices at Boott Mills in Lowell



TURI's new space at Boott Mills includes wet, analytical, microbiology and demonstration laboratories.

TURI recently moved to the Offices at Boott Mills, a restored 19th century textile mill in downtown Lowell. The new location brings together TURI's office space and its cleaning laboratory, which were previously in separate buildings.

Our new address is 126 John Street, Suite 14 (Second Floor), Lowell, MA 01852. All phone numbers remain the same including our main number, 978-934-3275.

Nanotechnology Survey to Help Inform Program Resources

The Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance & Technology (OTA) and TURI are conducting a [short survey](#) to develop a better understanding of the use of [nanomaterials](#) in Massachusetts.



Nanotechnology is a growing and important industry sector in the Commonwealth. This information will be used to better inform and target program resources.

If your facility uses, manufactures or distributes/sells nanomaterials, [please complete this survey](#). All responses are voluntary and confidential.

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.

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