

This is the weekly bulletin of the TURI Library at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. Greenlist Bulletin provides previews of recent publications and websites relevant to reducing the use of toxic chemicals by industries, businesses, communities, individuals and government. You are welcome to send a message to mary@turi.org if you would like more information on any of the articles listed here, or if this email is not displaying properly.

5 golden rules for investors on good governance and safer chemicals

Source: GreenBiz.com, April 30, 2018

Author: Lauren Compere

Investors care about the chemical footprint of corporations.

Toxic chemicals in products and supply chains are hidden liabilities, posing potentially significant regulatory and reputational risks to brands. Investors increasingly have little patience for companies that ignore the science, policy and consumer concerns with hazardous chemicals.

Witness the 2015 example of Lumber Liquidators, in which revelations of formaldehyde in its products caused its stock price to plummet declining by over 70 percent and its CEO to resign. Investor and consumer preferences are clearly signaling the need for corporations to manufacture, use and purchase products made with safe and healthy materials.

[Read more...](#)

See from the European Chemicals Agency, "[ENES Work Programme until 2020: Improving safe use of chemicals in supply chains](#)".

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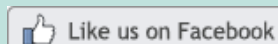
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Upcoming webinar: Safer Solutions for Methylene Chloride

**Tuesday, June 5, 2018
12:00pm-1:00pm**

TURI has been working with the U.S. EPA, the University of Massachusetts Lowell, paint stripper product manufacturers, and furniture refinishers to identify and evaluate solvent blends with equal or better paint stripping performance, comparable ingredient costs, and a safer environmental, health, and safety profile as compared to methylene chloride. This webinar will describe why methylene chloride is a

higher hazard substance as designated by TURA and findings from the research into safer formulations.

Register [here](#).

Home Depot to exclude nine chemicals from cleaning products

Source: [Chemical Watch, May 3, 2018](#)

Author: Tammy Lovell

US home improvement retailer Home Depot asked its suppliers to exclude nine chemicals from residential household cleaning chemical products by the end of 2022.

The effort builds on the company's chemical management strategy, which was announced in October last year.

Home Depot's website says the retailer is committed to working with suppliers to improve products that impact indoor air quality.

The nine chemicals to be phased out are:

- propyl-paraben;
- butyl-paraben;
- diethyl phthalates;
- dibutyl phthalates;
- formaldehyde;
- nonylphenol ethoxylates (NPEs);
- triclosan;
- toluene; and
- trichloroethylene (TCE)

The website adds that Home Depot's Eco Options programme identifies environmentally preferred products, including cleaners that have obtained third party certifications such as the EPA's Safer Choice and Cradle to Cradle Certified.

[Read more...](#)

See [statement](#) from The Home Depot.

Also see from *Chemical Watch*, "[South Korea proposes universal chemical tracking system](#)".

Hawaii lawmakers pass ban on sunscreen chemicals oxybenzone and octinoxate

Source: [Chemical & Engineering News, May 4, 2018](#)

Author: Cheryl Hogue

Hawaii is on the verge of banning two chemicals used in sunscreens, oxybenzone and octinoxate, to protect its coral reefs. The compounds absorb ultraviolet light.

The Hawaii State Legislature earlier this month passed a bill that would prohibit the sale of sunscreens containing either of the two compounds as of Jan. 1, 2021. According to the measure, octinoxate, which is also known as octyl methoxycinnamate, and oxybenzone "have significant harmful impacts on Hawaii's marine environment and residing ecosystems, including coral reefs."

[Read more...](#)

IARC Classifies 1-Bromopropane as "Possibly Carcinogenic"

[Source: American Industrial Hygiene Association, May 2, 2018](#)

A new monograph released by the International Agency for Research on Cancer classifies the solvent 1-bromopropane as a category 2B carcinogen, IARC's designation for substances that are possibly carcinogenic to humans. 1-bromopropane, also known as 1-BP and n-propyl-bromide, is a solvent used in the production of pesticides, flavors and fragrances, and pharmaceuticals. It is also used in dry cleaning and vapor degreasing.

IARC based its determination on studies of the effects of exposure to 1-BP among mice and rats. Among workers, the monograph notes that "dermal exposure can be a significant source of 1-bromopropane absorption and most common glove and chemical protective materials do not provide adequate skin protection."

[Read more...](#)

See IARC's assessment of 1-bromopropane in [Volume 115 - Some Industrial Chemicals](#).

Also see from AIHA, ["European Commission Proposes New Exposure Limits for Five Carcinogens"](#).

TURI's Note: See this [press release](#) from AIHA, which notes UML Professor Margaret Quinn will be awarded the Alice Hamilton Award at the end of this month.

Fracking chemicals "imbalance" the immune system

[Source: Environmental Health News, May 1, 2018](#)

Author: Brian Bienkowski

Chemicals commonly found in groundwater near fracked oil and gas wells appear to impair the proper functioning of the immune system, according to a lab study released today.

The study, published today in the journal *Toxicological Sciences*, is the first to find a link between fracking chemicals and immune system problems and suggests that baby girls born to mothers near fracking wells may not fight diseases later in life as well as they could have with a pollution-free pregnancy.

"This is a really important study, especially since the work started with the idea of identifying what's out there in the environment, how much people are exposed to," Andrea Gore, a professor of pharmacology and toxicology in the College of Pharmacy at the University of Texas at Austin, told EHN.

"So it's all based on this model that has been determined by a real world situation," said Gore, who was not involved in the study.

[Read more...](#)

See article in *Toxicological Sciences*, ["Developmental Exposure to a Mixture of 23 Chemicals Associated With Unconventional Oil and Gas Operations Alters the Immune System of Mice"](#).

Also see article in *Environmental Science & Technology*, ["Exposure Assessment Using](#)

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