

Lytron Reduces TCE Emissions by 6,000 Pounds

Lytron in Woburn, Mass. received a [TURI grant](#) to reduce the use of Trichloroethylene (TCE). In the video below, Alan Smith describes how he used TURI's laboratory testing services to evaluate the effectiveness of solutions that worked in a vacuum degreaser to remove lubricating oils from aluminum flat and fin parts. Find TCE resources such as fact sheets, case studies and safer alternatives [on the TURI website](#).



Call for Proposals: Apply for a TURI Grant

TURI invites grant proposals for projects that reduce toxic chemical use in businesses, communities, towns and cities. Funds can be used to offset the cost of technology, safer products, workshops and materials. [Submit your proposal by Friday, June 21, 2019.](#)

The grant categories include:

[Industry Grants](#) of up to

\$30,000 are for manufacturing facilities to improve processes or install technology that results in reducing toxics.

[Small Business Grants](#) of up to \$10,000 are for businesses that provide services directly to consumers to change processes or replace toxics with safer alternatives.

[Community Grants](#) of up to \$10,000 for local projects and up to \$20,000 for regional or statewide projects are intended to create and promote healthier communities.

[Academic Research Grants](#) in partnership with industry are available up to \$25,000.

Need ideas or examples? [Read about the most recently funded projects.](#)



Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 31: **Professional Wet Cleaning Demonstration** at Luongo's Cleaners in Bedford. [Learn more.](#)

Thursday, April 4: **Spring Continuing Education Conference** in Devens featuring keynote speaker Ray Lizotte, director of Secure Power Environmental Stewardship Office. [Learn more about the sessions and register.](#)

New Study Released: How to Protect Gymnasts from Flame Retardant Chemicals

A TURI-funded study that tested exposure to flame retardants among gymnasts was published in the March 26th issue of [Environment International](#).

Silent Spring Institute researchers collected hand samples of gymnasts before and after a gym switched the foam pit cubes with ones that didn't contain flame retardants.

Researchers observed a 5.4-fold decrease in levels of flame retardants that had accumulated on the gymnasts' hands during practice, suggesting that replacing the pit cubes with flame retardant free alternatives is an effective strategy for reducing exposures. TURI offers [small business grants](#) to help gym owners make the switch to non-flame retardant foam cubes.



[Read the press release.](#)

Re-Usable Bags are Green but are They

Clean?

UMass Lowell Students Test Cleaners for Re-Usable Bags



A team of public health students from the Zuckerberg College of Health Sciences has found that we pack more than groceries in reusable bags. Gym clothes, lunch and laundry are just a few of the other items that get transported in them. And how do we clean those reusable bags? Most of us don't.

Nicole Kebler, Adorrah Khan and Ross Goding, seniors who are working at the Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI) on their capstone project, conducted a survey on consumer habits related to cleaning reusable bags for the town of Westford, which instituted a ban on plastic bags on Jan. 1. [Read the story.](#)



PFAS Universe Webinar Materials Available

TURI and the IC2 (Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse) co-sponsored a webinar to help inform [TURA Science Advisory Board \(SAB\)](#) members and others about the universe of Per and Poly-Fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), their uses and degradation pathways.

"The PFAS Universe" webinar was presented by Bob Buck (The Chemours Company) and Steve Korzeniowski (BeachEdge Consulting for the FluoroCouncil).

The webinar was recorded and can be found on [IC2's website](#), along with the presentation slides. The presenters also answered additional questions posed by attendees; those are available on the [TURI website](#), along with a Fluorocouncil Guide to the Safe Handling of Fluoropolymer Resins.

The SAB continues to evaluate information on PFAS chemicals, including per- and polyfluoroethers and perfluoroalkyl phosphonic and phosphinic acids.

