

Greenlist Bulletin

This is the 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 info@turi.org if you would like more information on any of the articles listed here, or if this email is not displaying properly.

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Final PFAS-Related Revisions to the MCP (2019)

Source: Mass.gov

MassDEP has filed these regulatory changes with the Secretary of State for final promulgation and publication in the Massachusetts Register. The effective date of the regulations is December 27, 2019.

The revisions establish (a) Reportable Concentrations and Reportable Quantities for PFAS; (b) PFAS cleanup standards in soil and groundwater; and (c) required toxicity information for use in a site-specific risk characterization for PFAS.

Read more...

See also Researchers Find High Levels of PFAS Chemicals in Rainwater in United States.

P2 National Emphasis Areas (NEAs)

Source: US Environmental Protection Agency

The Pollution Prevention (P2) Program is planning to adopt five national emphasis areas (NEAs) for the upcoming FY 2020/2021 P2 Grant request for applications (RFA). P2 grant projects selected under the upcoming RFA will be required to support at least one of these NEAs. Establishing these grant priorities is intended to help focus resources to generate more impactful and measurable results, and to facilitate sharing of information among grantees working on similar issues.

The following NEAs, which are subject to change until posting of the RFA, offer significant opportunities for pollution prevention, economic and environmental impact:

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Food Processing

Source: Phys.org

Author: Brian Wallheimer

Cleaning and sanitizing food processing equipment requires using chemicals and copious amounts of water for rinsing those chemicals away. It's possible—if it can be done correctly—that creating microscopic bubbles in water could reduce or eliminate the need for those chemicals.

Read more...

See also TURI's work in the food and beverage sector and TURI's Cleaning Laboratory.

EPA Finalizes List of Next 20 Chemicals to Undergo Risk Evaluation Under TSCA

Source: US Environmental Protection Agency

Today, after reviewing input from stakeholders and the public, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the next 20 chemicals to undergo risk evaluation under the amended Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Finalizing this list of high-priority chemicals for risk evaluation represents the final step in the prioritization process outlined in TSCA and marks another major TSCA milestone for EPA in its efforts to ensure the safety of existing chemicals in the marketplace.

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National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 Conference Report

Source: US House of Representatives

SEC. 330. DISPOSAL OF MATERIALS CONTAINING PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES OR AQUEOUS FILM-FORMING FOAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that when materials containing per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (referred to in this section as "PFAS") or aqueous film forming foam (referred to in this section as "AFFF") are disposed—

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See also <u>Congress Puts PFAS SNURs on an Accelerated Timetable</u> and <u>Congress Misses</u> the Mark on PFAS in the NDAA.

Florida High School Introduces Synthetic Frogs for Science Class Dissection

Source: CBS News
Author: Sophie Lewis

Biology class is getting a little more humane at one high school in Florida, where high school students have started dissecting realistic man-made frogs instead of the real animals. Nearly 100 synthetic frogs were dissected last week by students at J.W. Mitchell High School in New Port Richey, Florida, according to the company that developed them, SynDaver.

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Europe To Adopt Sweeping Tap Water Limits for PFAS, Other

Toxic Contaminants

Source: Environmental Working Group

Author: Alex Formuzis

Days after Congress failed to set drinking water standards for two highly toxic fluorinated chemicals, or PFAS, the European Union is moving aggressively to adopt drinking water limits on all PFAS compounds throughout its 28 member nations.

Read more...

See also EU votes against renewing chlorpyrifos approval.

Palau Bans 'Reef-Toxic' Sunscreen

Source: Phys.org

Author: Bernadette Carreon

Palau's pioneering ban on "reef-toxic" sunscreens took effect Wednesday as the tiny Pacific island nation introduced strict environmental measures that also include one of the world's largest marine sanctuaries.

"We have to live and respect the environment because the environment is the nest of life, and without it nobody in Palau can survive," President Tommy Remengesau told AFP as the new laws took effect.

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