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## Coronavirus: Social Distancing is Delaying Vital Scientific Research

Source: [The Conversation](#)

Author: Chris Impey

Scientists are facing stiff headwinds from the rapid spread of COVID-19.

The coronavirus has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization and a national emergency in the U.S. While the impact of the pandemic on scientific research pales compared to its effect on human health and lives lost, it's still affecting the vitality of an essential component of the modern world.

[Read more...](#)

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## TRI Data for New England Shows Continued Environmental Results in a Strong Economy

Source: [US Environmental Protection Agency](#)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has released its 2018 Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) National Analysis. Findings from this publicly available report show an increase in recycling of TRI chemical wastes nationwide and indicate that companies continue to find ways to implement new source reduction activities and reduce the quantities of TRI chemicals that they release into the environment.

[Read more...](#)

See also [New Guidance Portal Provides Public Access to EPA Guidance Documents](#) and [2018 TRI Factsheet for Massachusetts](#)

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## FDA Studies: 'Short-chain' PFAS Chemicals More Toxic Than Previously Thought

Source: [Environmental Working Group](#)

Author: David Andrews, PhD

New studies by the Food and Drug Administration indicate that a common fluorinated chemical in food packaging and stain-resistant carpets and textiles is much more toxic than earlier studies by the chemical industry suggested.

[Read more...](#)

See also [A Blanket Ban on Toxic 'Forever Chemicals' is Good for People and Animals](#) and [Side-Chain Fluorinated Polymer Surfactants in Biosolids from Wastewater Treatment Plants](#)

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## Washington State Proposes Alternative Chemicals for PFASs

Source: [The National Law Review](#)

Author: Packaging Law at Keller and Heckman

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has released its 2018 Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) National Analysis. Findings from this publicly available report show an increase in recycling of TRI chemical wastes nationwide and indicate that companies continue to find ways to implement new source reduction activities and reduce the quantities of TRI chemicals that they release into the environment.

[Read more...](#)

See also [A Possible End to 'Forever' Chemicals](#) and [Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances](#)

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## How a Supply Chain Blacklist Could Help Millions of Workers Exposed to Toxic Chemicals

Source: [ChemSec](#)

The globalisation of supply chains, and the fact that the new manufacturing hubs of the world are now located in low-income countries where worker protection and environmental safety laws are nowhere to be found, means that workers are fighting an uphill battle when it comes to their exposure to hazardous chemicals. And the further down the supply chain you go, the more hard-won it gets.

[Read more...](#)

See also [The ZDHC – Scaling Up Chemicals Management for Almost a Decade](#)

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## EPA Issues Latest Draft of Multi-Sector General Permit

Source: [JD Supra](#)

Author: Holland & Knight LLP

On March 2, 2020, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a notice<sup>1</sup> and request for comment for its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) 2020 Issuance of the Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity. Comments are due by May 1, 2020. Substantial changes are proposed as a result of litigation over the 2015 permit

[Read more...](#)

See also [Stormwater Discharges from Industrial Activities](#)

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## Takeout Firm Hopes Seaweed-Lined Boxes Can Help Tackle Food's Plastic Problem

Source: [CNBC](#)

Author: Anmar Frangoul

Online food delivery business Just Eat, together with sustainable packaging firm Notpla, has developed what it describes as a “fully recyclable” takeout box lined with seaweed.

In an announcement Tuesday, Just Eat said the container was able to decompose in four weeks if put in a home compost. The seaweed-lined cardboard boxes are produced from tree and grass pulp, and contain no synthetic additives, according to the company.

[Read more...](#)

See also [Plastic That Saves the Planet? Startup's Novel Resin Helps Industry Go Green](#)

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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 [andrea@turi.org](mailto:andrea@turi.org) if you would like more information on any of the articles listed here, or if this email is not displaying properly.

March 20, 2020