

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

## Back online!

### Dear Greenlist Subscribers,

Thank you for your patience during our time of transition. We hope you will come visit us in the library at our new location -- The Offices at Boott Mills West, 126 John Street, Suite 14, Second Floor, Lowell, MA, 01852.

All the best,  
Mary

## In a surprising study, scientists say everyday chemicals now rival cars as a source of air pollution

Source: *The Washington Post*, February 15, 2018

Author: Chris Mooney

In a major study released Thursday, a team of government and university scientists say that the nature of air pollution is changing dramatically as cars become cleaner -- leaving personal-care products, paints, indoor cleaners and other chemical-containing agents as an increasingly dominant source of key emissions.

"Over time, the transportation sector has been getting cleaner when it comes to emissions of air pollutants," said Brian McDonald, lead author of the study in *Science*, who works for the University of Colorado at Boulder and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. "And as those emissions come down, the sources of air pollution are becoming more diverse."

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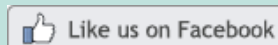
**Don't sweep it under the carpet**

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**WEBINAR: Artificial Turf Alternatives**  
**Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2018**  
**12-1pm EST**

When municipalities, universities, schools and other institutions consider what type of athletic playing fields to install, they need to decide

The study focused on a class of chemical products that give off "volatile organic compounds," or VOCs -- petroleum-based odorous substances that, in outdoor air, can contribute to the formation of ozone or even dangerous small-particulate pollution. The research found that the contribution of these chemicals to the overall burden of VOCs has been significantly underestimated and is underrepresented in current inventories used to judge the sources of pollution.

[Read more...](#)

See original study in *Science*, "[Volatile chemical products emerging as largest petrochemical source of urban organic emissions](#)".

Also see from the *Los Angeles Times*, "[Mad about L.A.'s air quality? Blame common products like hairspray and paint, not just cars](#)".

between natural grass, artificial turf with crumb rubber infill and artificial turf with other forms of infill. TURI has received requests for information about artificial turf fields as an alternative to natural grass fields. In response, we have developed an alternatives assessment for sports turf. This webinar will provide information on the ingredients of artificial turf infills. Register [here](#).

## Engaging high school students in environmental health: A young scientist makes an impact

Source: [Silent Spring Institute, February 15, 2018](#)

You know the saying, "healthy habits start young." That's why Jennie Liss Ohayon is excited about a new opportunity to engage high school students in learning about environmental health -- specifically the health risks associated with harmful chemicals in everyday products. The goal of the new project is to help students reduce their toxic exposures while providing them with leadership skills to promote healthier environments at home and in their communities.

"Students are a powerful voice," says Ohayon, a postdoctoral research fellow at Silent Spring Institute. "They're also the leaders, decision-makers, and educators of tomorrow. By raising awareness of how chemicals in consumer products impact health and disease, I hope to inspire students not only to lead healthier lives but also be proactive in advocating for change."

Working in collaboration with the Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition (MBCC), Ohayon developed a new high school curriculum module on environmental health, as part of MBCC's "Let's Talk Prevention" educational program. Now, thanks to a grant from the Toxics Use Reduction Institute, she is introducing the curriculum to six schools in Massachusetts this year, engaging with more than 275 students.

[Read more...](#)

See an article from *JAMA Internal Medicine* about "[The Personal Care Products Safety Act](#)".

See from *The New York Times*, "[What Poisons Are in Your Body?](#)".

## U.S. seeks to slash use of animals in chemical safety testing - EPA embraces new era in risk assessment

Source: [Chemical & Engineering News, December 4, 2017](#)

Author: Britt E. Erickson

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is embarking on a multiyear journey to prioritize and assess the risks of tens of thousands of chemicals in the U.S. market -- and much of that evaluation will be done without the use of vertebrate animals.

Most of the chemicals found in products sold in the U.S., except for prescription drugs and pesticides, have not been subjected to extensive toxicity testing in lab animals. Such testing is expensive and time-consuming and sacrifices numerous animals to yield results that aren't easily extrapolated to humans. Under changes enacted last year to the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), EPA has new authority to collect toxicity information from manufacturers to evaluate the health risks of chemicals in everyday products. That information, combined with the specifics of where and how those chemicals are used, will help EPA decide how to manage chemical risks.

[Read more...](#)

Also see from *Chemical & Engineering News*, "[Trump's 2019 spending plan scares science supporters - Environment and energy programs face major cuts; basic science is mostly spared](#)".

See from *Paint & Coatings Industry*, "[ACC Announces Working Alliance with OSHA](#)".

## California's Green Chemistry Agency Issues Its Draft 2018-2020 Three-Year Priority Product Work Plan

Source: [Lexology, February 13, 2018](#)

Authors: Morrison & Foerster LLP

On February 8, 2018, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) released a Draft Three-Year Priority Product Work Plan (2018-2020) (new Work Plan) under its Safer Consumer Products (SCP) Program. The SCP Program is an innovative regulatory scheme to evaluate and require safer substitutes for hazardous chemicals in consumer products. The new Work Plan identifies the product categories that DTSC will evaluate during the next three years in order to identify the next set of Priority Products it will regulate under the SCP regulations.

Following on the heels of the prior 2015-2017 Priority Product Work Plan (Prior Work Plan), the new Work Plan identifies seven product categories from which DTSC will propose future Priority Products for regulation. The new Work Plan also describes DTSC's considerations in selecting the product categories and provides selected examples of Candidate Chemicals found in products within these categories.

Of the seven product categories, five are carried over from the Prior Work Plan with some names modified to make them consistent with industry or regulatory naming conventions, or to change the category scope. Two wholly new categories (Food Packaging and Lead-Acid Batteries) are also added. Two former categories *not* being evaluated under the new Work Plan are clothing products and fishing and angling equipment.

[Read more...](#)

## Foam-dyeing process cuts water and chemicals in denim production

Source: [Chemical Engineering, January 1, 2018](#)

Author: Scott Jenkins

Indigo Mill Designs Foam dyeing, a new technology for dyeing cotton yarn that is being applied to denim production for the first time, eliminates the use of several chemicals

and can reduce water use by up to 90% compared to traditional dyeing. ... Traditional dyeing of denim involves dye baths, in which the indigo dye is treated with a reducing agent (sodium hydrosulfite) and pH-adjusting sodium hydroxide to render it soluble in water. The cotton yarns used for making denim are dipped continuously as ropes into the baths, and then removed and exposed to air in a step called skying to oxidize the indigo back into its raw form to color the yarn. Making denim typically requires six or more dip-and-skye cycles and several rinses, all of which require substantial amounts of water, which then must be treated.

[Read more...](#)

Also see a [press release](#) on the technology from Texas Tech University.

## Seven new substances added to the Candidate List, entry for bisphenol-A updated

[Source: European Chemicals Agency, January 15, 2018](#)

Helsinki, 15 January 2018 -- ECHA has added seven new substances of very high concern (SVHC) to the Candidate List and updated the entry for bisphenol A (BPA) following the SVHC identification process with the involvement of the Member State Committee (MSC).

The BPA entry was updated to reflect an additional reason for inclusion due to its endocrine disrupting properties causing adverse effects to the environment.

[Read more...](#)

## Don't sweep it under the carpet

[Source: Chemical Watch, February 2018](#)

[Author: Tammy Lovell](#)

Chemicals in carpets have recently come under scrutiny, with NGO Healthy Building Network (HBN) calling for a "fundamental transformation" of the industry to aid recycling. In its October 2017 report, *Eliminating toxics in carpet: lessons for the future of recycling*, HBN identified 44 toxic substances found in fibre, backing, adhesives and carpet pad.

The complicated structure of carpet makes it difficult to recycle without reintroducing toxic substances. Interface, the world's biggest designer and maker of carpet tiles, is working to address this challenge. The company spoke up for the California bill (AB1158, Chu), signed into law on 15 October 2017, which mandates recycling 24% of post-consumer carpet waste by 2020, a doubling of the state's current rate.

[Read more...](#)

See HBN October 2017 report, "[Eliminating Toxics in Carpet: Lessons for the Future of Recycling](#)".

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