

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.

Novel Sugar-Based Neutralizing Agent for Ecolabel-Certified Paints

Source: [Paint and Coatings Industry, June 4, 2018](#)

Authors: Silvia Ziebold and Jorg Ruger

Neutralizing agents are used in only small quantities in water-based paints. However, they can have a significant effect. Not only do they regulate the pH value, they also make a positive contribution to the storage stability of the paint by reducing the interaction between the paint ingredients. If neutralizing agents also comply with health and environmental-relevant aspects, such as being VOC-free and hazard label-free, they are of particular interest for ecolabel-certified paints.

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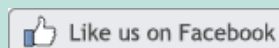
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US ATSDR releases 'suppressed' PFAS tox profile

Source: [Chemical Watch, June 21, 2018](#)

Author: Kelly Franklin

The US Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry has released a controversial draft toxicological profile on four per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs). The move comes amid uproar over allegations that other federal agencies were suppressing its release. ...

Congress and the consumer advocacy community responded with outrage over the delay, and called for the ATSDR -- which is housed under the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) -- to release the draft toxicological profile.

Now the "very, very low" MRLs values referenced in the January email exchange have been confirmed in the toxicological profile for four of the 14 assessed substances: PFOS, PFOA, PFHxS, and PFNA.

[Read more...](#)

See the [ATSDR Toxicological Profile for Perfluoroalkyls - Draft for Public Comment](#).

See from NY State, "[Governor Cuomo and New York Attorney General Barbara Underwood Announce Lawsuit Against Manufacturers of Hazardous Firefighting Foam](#)."

These Toxic Chemicals In Food Packaging Are Getting Into Your Meals

[Source: Environmental Working Group, June 19, 2018](#)

Author: Rachel Smilan-Goldstein

On a busy weeknight, takeout and fast food are easy dinner time solutions. But your family's favorite on-the-go meal may come with a side of toxic fluorinated chemicals.

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, are a family of greaseproof, waterproof and nonstick industrial compounds. They're used in hundreds of consumer products, including ones that touch your food. These chemicals pollute the bodies of almost everyone worldwide, and have been linked to a slew of serious health problems.

Some of the most worrisome places these chemicals lurk are in fast food wrappers and takeout containers. Food and Drug Administration tests found that PFAS chemicals can migrate out of food wrappers to contaminate food, especially when the food is greasy. And when EWG and colleagues tested fast food wrappers, we found fluorinated chemicals in 40 percent of the wrappers tested. This included packaging for sandwiches, pizza, fried chicken and pastries.

Until companies change their packaging, or laws are put in place to keep our food safe from this nasty class of chemicals, PFAS in fast food packages is one more reason to cut back on fast food and greasy carryout whenever possible. Avoiding these substances may be even more important if you are pregnant or have kids, as PFAS chemicals can be particularly harmful to a developing fetus or young child.

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Biorenewable, biodegradable plastic alternative synthesized by CSU chemists

[Source: Colorado State University, June 21, 2018](#)

Author: Anne Manning

Publishing in *Nature Communications*, the team led by Professor of Chemistry Eugene Chen describes chemical synthesis of a polymer called bacterial poly(3-hydroxybutyrate) - or P3HB. The compound shows early promise as a substitute for petroleum plastics in major industrial uses.

P3HB is a biomaterial, typically produced by bacteria, algae and other microorganisms, and is used in some biomedical applications. Its high production costs and limited volumes render the material impractical in more widespread commodity applications, however.

The team, which includes the paper's first author and research scientist Xiaoyan Tang, used a starting material called succinate, an ester form of succinic acid. This acid is produced via fermentation of glucose and is first on the U.S. Department of Energy's list of top 12 biomass-derived compounds best positioned to replace petroleum-derived chemicals.

[Read more...](#)

See article in *Nature Communications*, "[Chemical synthesis of perfectly isotactic and high melting bacterial poly\(3-hydroxybutyrate\) from bio-sourced racemic cyclic diolide](#)".

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