

September 2008 Update

Events:

1) **The Fire Retardant Dilemma Part VI: Health and Chemicals Policy**

Friday, Sept 19, 2008, 8:30am - 3:30pm

150 University Hall, UC Berkeley

2199 Addison Street, Berkeley (Corner of Oxford & Addison Streets)

RSVP with your contact information to: FRDilemma@gmail.com

Questions: 510-644-3164

\$20 per person to cover lunch, continental breakfast and snacks.

http://greensciencepolicy.org/?page_id=9

2) **Green Chemistry and Environmental Health conference**

A one-day conference exploring environmental health sciences, green chemistry and how these fields connect.

Monday, November 10, 2008

Beckman Center of the National Academies

Irvine, California

No cost

<http://www.gcandehs.org/Site/Home.html>

Registration: <http://www.gcandehs.org/Site/Register.html>

3) **William McDonough event**

Monday, September 15, 2008, 2pm-3:45 (late notice, sorry!)

Sacramento Convention Center, 1400 J Street, Hall D&E

California Department of Conservation

Registration: <http://www.conservation.ca.gov/pages/registration.aspx>

Updates:

1) With leadership from UC Berkeley's chemistry graduate students, the first seminar in **Green Chemistry and Sustainable Design** is up and running:

<http://www.greenchemistryandsustainabledesign.org/coursecalendar.html>

2) California's **Green Chemistry Science Advisory Panel** issued its report in May: See

<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/GreenChemistryInitiative/index.cfm>

3) The COEH publication, *Green Chemistry: Cornerstone to a Sustainable California*, has been translated into a day-long training manual on chemicals policy for union members by the **Labor Institute** and was rolled out last month by **United Steel Workers Local 5** in Martinez, California. <http://www.usw5.org/>

4) **AB 1879 and SB 509** passed both the California Assembly and Senate and await the Governor's signature. While this is a preliminary step, and more needs to be done that will require new law, the Legislature and Administration are showing that chemicals policy is a priority area for the state's future, and that it is an area that California can provide some national leadership.

Our sense is that California is embarking on a path toward green chemistry that is similar to what the state began in the 1970s with energy efficiency, and which continues today. California now uses about 50% of the energy per capita compared to the rest of the U.S., after having tracked the U.S. up to the 70s, but it requires ongoing attention, including legislation.

5) **ACS:** We presented our work at the American Chemical Society's 12th Annual Green Chemistry and Engineering Conference in Wash, D.C. June 24: *Characterizing and Addressing Policy Barriers to Green Chemistry in the United States*. Abstract: <http://coeh.berkeley.edu/docs/news/2008-abstract.pdf>

6) Dr. Schwarzman's commentary on endocrine disrupting chemicals was published in the journal **America Family Physician**. With relatively few environmental health pieces appearing in the journals of clinical medicine, we're pleased to see this accepted. See: http://coeh.berkeley.edu/docs/news/08-09-01_ed_schwarzman.pdf

7) The **American Medical Association** and **American Public Health Association** passed broadly framed chemicals policy resolutions: AMA: http://coeh.berkeley.edu/docs/news/ama_2008_res.pdf. APHA: <http://www.apha.org/advocacy/policy/policysearch/default.htm?id=1350>

8) COEH's chemicals policy work was featured in **California Magazine**, the publication of the UC Berkeley Alumni Association. See: <http://www.alumni.berkeley.edu/california/main.asp>

9) COEH has joined others on the Berkeley campus to form an **EU Center of Excellence**, funded by the European Commission. Our work is also part the UC Berkeley **California-EU Regulatory Cooperation Project**. See: <http://igov.berkeley.edu/archive/index.html>

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