

OTA Outlook

Volume 8, Issue 1

Spring 2016



In This Issue:

- **MassDEP TURA Reporting Amnesty**
- **'Autobody News' Chronicles OTA's MassCAR Trainings**
- **FY15 Toxics Use Reduction Program Annual Report Now Available**
- **CY15 Toxics Use Reduction Task Force Annual Report Now Available**
- **Continuing Education Conference – April 14, 2016**
- **Toxics Use Reduction Act/Toxic Release Inventory Reporting Workshops**
- **Green your Bottom Line in Food Processing Workshop – May 5, 2016**
- **Next TUR Advisory Committee Meeting – May 11, 2016**

Industry news

MassDEP Toxics Use Reduction Program Reporting Amnesty

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) enforcement amnesty for facilities that voluntarily disclose past failure to file one or more Toxics Use Reduction Act, M.G.L. Chapter 21I (TURA) Annual Chemical Use Reports (Form S's) will end on **June 30, 2016**. The time to take action to avoid penalties for failure to file is now. For more information on the enforcement amnesty, contact Walter Hope at walter.hope@state.ma.us or call (617) 292-5982.



Autobody News Chronicles OTA's MassCAR Trainings

In February, the magazine *Autobody News* covered the MassCAR trainings that OTA held over the winter. The article noted that “through OTA's six training sessions earlier this year, they were able to provide training to around 100 automotive industry professionals, and they were held at voc-tech schools around the state.” Read the full article [here](#).

OTA Publications Updates

FY15 Toxics Use Reduction Program Annual Report Now Available

The TURA program has published the FY15 annual report to the Governor. The report highlights activity by the TURA program partners, the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) TUR program, Office of Technical



Assistance and Technology (OTA), and Toxics Use Reduction Institute (TURI), as well as the activities of the Toxics Use Reduction Administrative Council (Council) and its Advisory Committee and Science Advisory Board. Highlights from fiscal year 2015 include:

- **25th Anniversary Leadership Tour:** During March, April, and May, the TURA program recognized nine Massachusetts businesses and two small business groups for their reductions in toxics use, improved work environment. Leadership events were held at each facility.
- **Demonstration Events:** The TURA program sponsored demonstration events at 912 Auto Center, showcasing its conversion to safer paint gun washing chemicals, and at Premier Cleaners, demonstrating professional wet cleaning technology.
- **Higher Hazard Substance Designations:** The Administrative Council voted to designate hydrogen fluoride, cyanide compounds, and dimethylformamide as Higher Hazard Substances (HHS), and these designations were promulgated into regulation along with n-propyl bromide which the Council voted as a HHS in FY14. The Council also voted to designate toluene diisocyanate (TDI) as a HHS; the regulatory process was not completed for this chemical in FY15.
- **Case Studies and Fact Sheets:** The TURA program published new case studies on Stainless Steel Coatings Inc., 912 Auto Center, Ophir Optics, Allston Collision Center, Franklin Paint Company, Columbia Manufacturing, Shawmut Corporation, and Averica Discovery Services Inc. The program also updated two fact sheets, *Designation of TURA Higher and Lower Hazard Substances in Massachusetts* and *Right from the Start: A Pre-Permit Assistance Program for Massachusetts Businesses*.



The full FY15 Annual Report is available [here](#).

CY15 Toxics Use Reduction Task Force Annual Report Now Available

The Toxics Reduction Task Force was established in 2009, directing all Commonwealth Executive Departments to procure Environmentally Preferable Products (EPPs) and services whenever such products and services are readily available, perform satisfactorily, and represent the best value to the Commonwealth. The [2015 Calendar Year Report of the Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Toxics Reduction Task Force](#) is now available online. In calendar year 2015, the Task Force:

- Assisted with specification development for state purchasing contract FAC85: Environmentally Preferable Cleaning Products, Programs, Equipment and Supplies.
- Developed additional information for safer disinfection and sanitization practices.
- Conducted training and on-site assistance to the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), the Department of Transportation (DOT), and the Department of Public Health (DPH) in transitioning to green cleaning programs.
- Identified flame retardants as a task force targeted chemical, and worked with the Operational Services Division (OSD) to craft a survey to furniture vendors on statewide contract OFF38:

Office, School and Library Furniture, Accessories & Installation to identify flame retardant free furniture.

Trainings & Events

Continuing Education Conference – April 14, 2016

The Toxics Use Reduction Planner Continuing Education Conference will take place on Thursday, April 14 from 8 AM to 4 PM at the Mass Mutual Learning and Conference Center in Chicopee. Find the day's full schedule and registration information on [TURI's website](#).

Toxics Use Reduction Act/Toxic Release Inventory Reporting Workshops

The MassDEP, OTA, and TURI are partnering with the U.S. EPA to hold four training sessions on TURA/TRI reporting requirements in the first half of 2016. These workshops are designed for experienced reporters. They are free but require registration. Each workshop qualifies for 8 TUR CE Credits. The dates and locations for the workshops are:

May 5, 2016 – Fall River ATMC Conference Center, 151 Martine Drive, Fall River

May 10, 2016 – Fitchburg North Central Mass. Chamber of Commerce, 860 South Street, Fitchburg

May 26, 2016 – Chicopee Mass. Mutual Training Center, 350 Memorial Drive, Chicopee

June 2, 2016 – Newburyport Parker River Wildlife Refuge Headquarters Building, 6 Plum Island Turnpike, Newburyport

To register for a workshop, e-mail Nicholas Leonardi at leonardi.nicholas@epa.gov. In the email, please indicate the date and location of the workshop that you will attend and include your name, company, and address.

Green Your Bottom Line in Food Processing: An Energy and Environmental Workshop – May 5, 2016

This interactive workshop, taking place in Westborough, will focus on opportunities in food and beverage processing to increase energy efficiency, reduce costs, reduce chemical use, use safer cleaning materials, and improve operations. The workshop will highlight brief case studies by your peers in Massachusetts, and provide you with the opportunity to engage directly with experts to help you get started and/or continue with your own programs. There is no charge for this workshop but please register by April 28th at <http://tinyurl.com/foodprocessingworkshop>.

Upcoming Advisory Committee Meeting – May 11, 2016

The next meeting the Advisory Committee to the TUR Administrative Council will take place on Wednesday, May 11 from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. The meeting will be held in at the MassDEP Offices, 1 Winter Street in Boston, in Conference Rooms B and C.

ABOUT OTA

The Office of Technical Assistance and Technology (OTA) is the Commonwealth's center for technical information and assistance, and solutions that enable businesses to enhance their competitive position as they reduce the use of toxic chemicals, energy and water. For additional information about OTA's advisory services, which are provided on a confidential basis at no cost to Massachusetts businesses, call (617) 626-1060, or visit our web site: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/ota>.

Governor Charles D. Baker Jr.
Lieutenant Governor Karyn E. Polito
EEA Secretary: Matthew A. Beaton
OTA Director: Richard A. Bizzozero

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs
Office of Technical Assistance and Technology
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, Massachusetts 02114
Phone: (617) 626-1060
Fax: (617) 626-1095
Web: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/ota>



OTA Outlook, an electronic newsletter produced by the Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance and Technology (OTA), focuses on best practices in toxics use reduction, pollution prevention, energy efficiency and water conservation. The newsletter highlights information to help companies comply with environmental, health and safety requirements in ways that improve operational efficiency and competitiveness.