



Toxic Times

A weekly recap of the top stories on toxics in Michigan and beyond.

News Highlights from November 11 – November 16, 2008

MICHIGAN NEWS

Pall Life Sciences drilling new wells to track pollution

The Ann Arbor News, Saturday, November 15, 2008

Pall Life Sciences is drilling a series of new wells on Ann Arbor's northwest side in an attempt to monitor and capture a massive plume of underground pollution. The plume is composed of 1,4-dioxane, a probable human carcinogen, and has been tracked by environmental authorities for over a decade.

http://www.mlive.com/annarbornews/news/index.ssf/2008/11/pall_life_sciences_drilling_ne.html

Toxic toys still on shelves, but legislators vow to help

The Bay City Times, Thursday, November 13, 2008

The concern around chemicals in toys spurred Congress to pass legislation limiting certain chemicals from children's products. However, the law does not take effect until February 2009, and toys with potential toxins are still on shelves in Michigan.

http://blog.mlive.com/bctimes/2008/11/toxic_toys_still_on_shelves_bu.html

Getting the lead out

The Detroit News, Friday, November 14, 2008

The Wayne county Airport Authority debuted one of the first lead-free firearm ranges in Metro Detroit on Thursday. The range is designed to eliminate health hazards from lead ammunition, reduce costs, and enhance the training regimen of the police force.

<http://www.detnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081114/METRO01/811140367/-1/ARCHIVE>

NATIONAL NEWS

BPA leaches from 'safe' products

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Saturday, November 15, 2008

A Journal Sentinel analysis of 10 products marketed to infants or billed as 'microwave safe' were found to leach bisphenol A in toxic doses when heated in a microwave or conventional oven.

<http://www.jsonline.com/watchdog/watchdogreports/34532034.html>

<http://www.jsonline.com/watchdog/watchdogreports/34532039.html>

Chemical in plastics may cause fertility problems

Forbes, Wednesday, November 12, 2008

Bisphenol A could hurt chances of successful in vitro fertilization, or the ability of an embryo to attach to the uterus, according to presentations at the American Society of Reproductive Medicine's annual meeting.

<http://www.forbes.com/forbeslife/health/feeds/hscout/2008/11/13/hscout621313.html>

Female fetuses are sensitive to hormone disrupters

Environmental Science and Technology, Wednesday, November 13, 2008

Although synthetic chemicals' effects on male reproductive health have been chronicled for over ten years, researchers have just compiled a similar evaluation for females. The findings of the evaluation indicate that hormone-disrupting chemicals may affect women throughout their lives.

<http://pubs.acs.org/action/showStoryContent?doi=10.1021%2Fon.2008.11.12.155768>

The verdict is in: steel dust in Claymont has dangerous toxins

Hockessin Community News, Saturday, November 15, 2008

The steel dust that has been falling on Claymont, DE, for five years has been found to contain lead and manganese, according to a scientific study spearheaded by residents and an international environmental advocacy group.

<http://www.communitypub.com/brandywine/x541352414/The-verdict-is-in-steel-dust-in-Claymont-has-dangerous-toxins>

DEP blasted over report

The Bergen County Record, Sunday, November 16, 2008

Environmental activists are accusing state officials of burying a report showing higher lung cancer rates among Jersey City residents who live near sites contaminated with chromium.

http://www.northjersey.com/environment/environmentnews/DEP_blasted_over_report.html

In fighting wildfires, concerns about chemicals

The New York Times, Saturday, November 15, 2008

As wildfires continue to burn in the western United States, concerns have risen about the use of chemical fire retardants in controlling and extinguishing the blazes.

http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/16/us/16wildfires.html?_r=1