

# SCHC Monthly Newsletter

Issue 31 | March 27, 2020



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## From the SCHC President

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Dear SCHC Members, Stakeholders and Friends –

It has truly been an honor to serve as President of the Society for Chemical Hazard Communication over the past two years. I am grateful for each of you who have directly and indirectly supported SCHC's mission to deliver education, networking and stewardship opportunities in promoting and enhancing the awareness of chemical hazard communication and stewardship of chemicals.

This Spring is not what we as an organization, nor what we as the human race, envisioned. We are all facing unprecedented challenges in our personal and professional lives. Many companies employing our members and stakeholders are supporting and delivering critical materials and supplies that citizens depend on, or are rapidly adjusting operations to respond to the current needs and working to minimize supply chain disruptions. For all of your efforts, thank you.

Since mid-February, the SCHC Board of Directors has met weekly to monitor and contingency plan, then execute and continue to brainstorm ideas related to the impact of COVID-19 on our operations. As an all-volunteer organization, we appreciate your patience as we identify and align resources to execute planned alternatives related to the Spring 2020 meeting. Please review our [earlier communications](#), and stay tuned for details on upcoming offerings for virtual informational and educational content.

As our next President, Julia Diebol, begins her term on April 1, I know that she will benefit from the same support and counsel from the Board of Directors and members that I have received as she works with SCHC Leadership to lead this organization forward. As my role transitions to Past-President, I continue to believe that the very best thing about SCHC is its people, and the support, both professionally and personally, that we can offer one another.

I look forward to seeing you all in Arlington in September. In the meantime, I wish you all good health. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.

Jennifer Mahoney, SDSRP  
President, Society for Chemical Hazard Communication



SCHC

From the SCHC President  
-Elect

## **From the SCHC President-Elect**

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Thank you for your patience and support as we all work together through these challenging times. Along with the rest of our officers, board members, committee chairs, new and returning members, and all those who were planning to attend, I was looking forward to the many learning and networking opportunities at the SCHC Spring Meeting in Charlotte. Instead, I am now looking forward to working together with all of you to overcome the challenges we face and to continue the mission of SCHC.

One of the most important things we do at each meeting is to welcome new members and help them find a place within SCHC where they can be supported and be of support to others. Whether you'd like to develop your leadership skills, try out some public speaking, stay informed about the next big thing, or simply make some new friends in your field, we have still have many opportunities for leadership and participation on our committees, including:

- Our **Program Committee**, which organizes our meeting plenary sessions. This committee is working to develop alternative ways to offer content from our Spring Meeting, as well as planning timely and informative plenary sessions for our upcoming Fall Meeting, September 19-23, 2020 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Virginia.
- Our **Professional Development Committee**, which organizes our professional development courses. This committee is also working on alternative delivery methods for spring and planning for fall.
- Our **Forum Committee**, which organizes breakout sessions for discussion among members.
- Our **Exhibit Committee**, which organizes our annual exhibit show and manages sponsorships.
- Our **Poster Committee**, which organizes our annual poster session.
- Our **Outreach Committee**, which manages our communications, including newsletters and social media.
- Our **Alliance Committee**, which manages our relationships with other organizations, including OSHA.
- Our **Heritage Committee**, which preserves our shared history at SCHC.

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SCHC

From the SCHC President  
-Elect (continued)

Facebook Alert

### From the SCHC President-Elect (*continued*)

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I encourage you to reach out to the chairs of these committees through the email links at <https://www.schc.org/committees> to learn more about them and make arrangements to join a monthly conference call.

I hope you and your loved ones are safe and well. While things still may be uncertain for some time, I look forward to one day welcoming you to a future meeting in person. Until then, I thank you and the rest of our SCHC family for your support and I look forward to talking and emailing with you instead.

Warm wishes for health and well-being,

Julia Diebol, Ph.D., CSP, C.P.S.M  
President-Elect, Society for Chemical Hazard Communication



Jennifer Mahoney



Julia Diebol

### Facebook Alert

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We'll be sharing updates about the SCHC President transition, Board activities and committee news on Facebook and our other social platforms. We're hosting a **Photo Caption Contest** on the [SCHC Facebook page](#) starting Tuesday, March 31st. Winners will receive an SCHC water bottle!





REGULATORY

OSHA Guide to COVID-19

Resources for Coronavirus

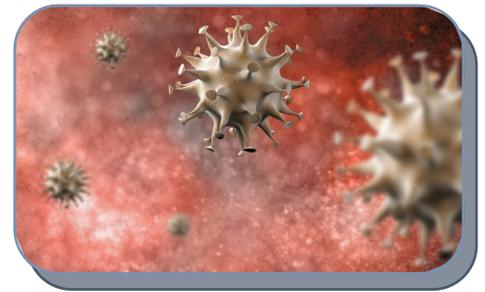
SCHC

Mark Your Calendars

**OSHA Guide to COVID-19**

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The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration has published a booklet “[Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19](#)” to help companies respond to the coronavirus pandemic. The booklet includes information about jobs classified as high and low risk, workers living abroad or travelling internationally, and a list of services and programs that can assist companies in maximizing their safety efforts.



**Additional Resources for Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

World Health Organization [Updates](#)

OSHA [Additional Resources](#) (including PPE and worker exposure info)

Center for Disease Control [Updates](#)

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health [Updates](#)

EU Centre for Disease Prevention & Control [Updates](#)

Infection Prevention & Control Canada [Updates](#)

Chinese Center for Disease Control & Prevention [Updates](#)

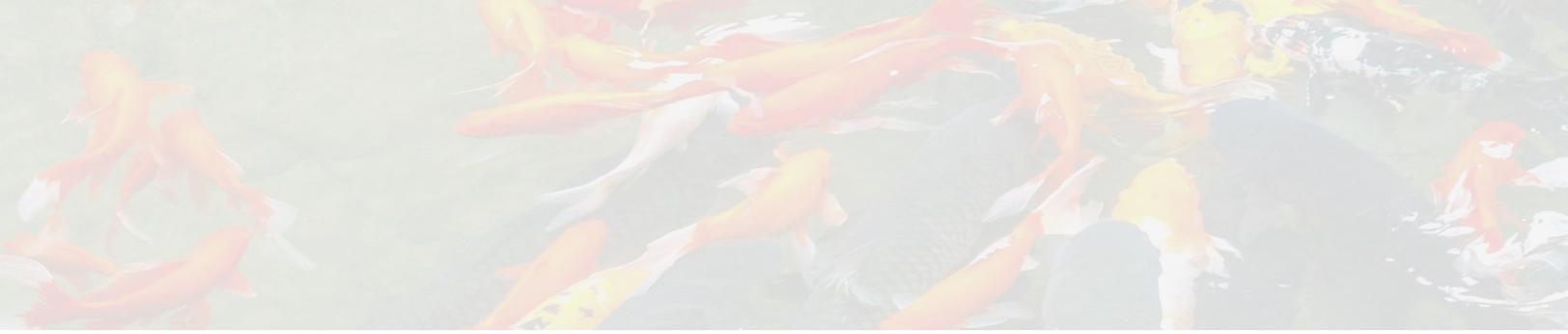
**Mark Your Calendar**

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**The SCHC Spring Meeting will not proceed. Please read the [message from SCHC’s President about this change](#).**

**March 30, 2020 - SCHC Board Meeting** - Teleconference meeting. To get registered as a guest, please contact [SCHC Chair Danielle Svestka](#)

**September 19 - 23, 2020** - SCHC Fall 2020 Meeting, Arlington, VA



## REGULATORY

EPA Expediting Emerging  
Viral Pathogens Claim  
Submissions

Ladder Safety Month

### **EPA Expediting Emerging Viral Pathogens Claim Submissions**

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has contacted registrants of disinfectants who have products that may be effective in killing the coronavirus. The agency is expediting the review of submissions from companies who are requesting emerging viral pathogen claims to their already-registered surface disinfectant labels. According to EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler, “By prioritizing these reviews, we are ensuring that Americans will have access to all approved and market available surface disinfectant products.”



Only claims that do not require review of new efficacy data are being expedited. To learn more about this and submit a request, visit [this page](#). Here is a [list of disinfectants](#) that meet EPA’s criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2, the cause of COVID-19.

### **March is National Ladder Safety Month**

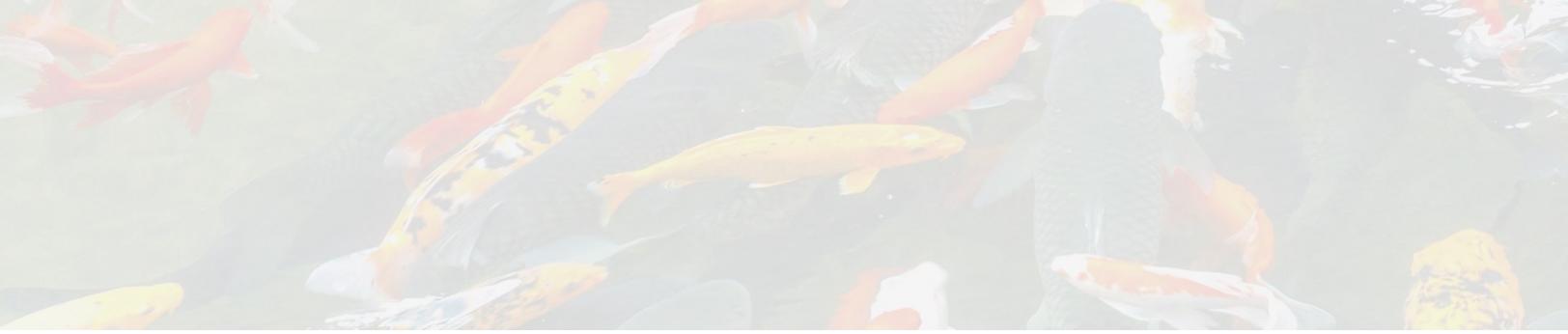
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According to the American Ladder Institute “Every year more than 100 people die from ladder-related accidents, and thousands suffer disabling injuries.” That is why March is National Ladder Safety Month to help promote proper ladder safety in the home and workplace. OSHA shared [www.laddersafetymonth.com](http://www.laddersafetymonth.com), which has helpful tips and guides.

To help spread the message about ladder safety, here are [resources](#), such as safety videos, flyers and infographs. Use #laddersafety to join the conversation on social media.



Photo credit: facebook.com/laddersafetymonth



SCHC

From the Outreach Desk

### **From the Outreach Desk**

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I write this to all of you having just learned about the fact that the spring meeting is not happening. I am really sad to hear this news, especially since this would have been the last Spring Meeting. But things go as they go and we must do what's best for our members. We don't want to risk anyone's health.

So, what now? Well, I guess I won't be seeing any of you in Charlotte (and I had gotten really excited about seeing old friends and making new ones) but it's still spring. So, things are getting greener and the weather is getting warmer, at least here in Connecticut. While I'm sure Charlotte would be nicer, I'm still enjoying the first hints of color and the sun that has emerged.

Spring is generally considered a time of renewal. A time of blossoming and changing. I think it's a good time to start new habits. I like to try to get outside more and I have lately been growing my own vegetables. I actually harvested some carrots that survived the winter. So, try to do something that gets you outside as the weather warms. Sometimes staring at a computer screen all day getting annoyed about SDS isn't healthy. Just be sure to wear sunscreen.

And wash your hands. Covid-19 isn't something to take lightly. Currently there aren't enough tests available so we don't really know how many cases there are. I know many companies have instituted travel bans and many states are restricting movement and preventing large gatherings. While those who are relatively young and healthy seem to be able to weather the illness out at home, those who are immunocompromised or elderly are at greatest risk. And while you might not have those people in your life, you might be around someone who does. So be sure to practice good hygiene and stay home if you feel unwell. Soap and water are very effective for killing Covid-19, so wash your hands frequently. And don't hoard supplies. This doesn't do anyone any good.

I hope to see many if not all of you at the fall meeting. We are going to keep up with our social media postings and everything, so we're not really going anywhere. I hope you all stay well and enjoy the sunshine.

Chandra Gioiello, Chair  
Outreach Committee

## REGULATORY

### TSCA Updates and March TSCA Inventory List

### ECHA Committees Conclude on Five Restrictions

## TSCA Updates and March TSCA Inventory List

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The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Inventory List was updated this month. Download the [latest TSCA Inventory](#).

On February 19th, 2020, [EPA finalized a rule](#) on the procedures for companies to substantiate their confidential business information (CBI) claims for the specific chemical identities of substances on the TSCA inventory, as well as the plan for how the Agency will review the claims, timeframes and the annual posting of results. The [rule](#) includes questions about reverse engineering. CBI reviews covered in this rule must occur before February 19, 2024.

On February 26th, 2020, [EPA issued](#) a final list of 20 chemical substances designated as [low-priority substances](#) for which risk evaluation under the TSCA is not warranted at this time. Read the [supporting information](#) about the low-priority substances.

On March 13, 2020, [EPA announced](#) that it has extended the deadline to self-identify as a manufacturer or importer of a high-priority chemical to May 27, 2020. Use this link for a [list of the chemical substances undergoing prioritization](#).

## ECHA Committees Conclude on Five Restrictions

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The Committee for Socio-economic Analysis (SEAC) and the Committee for Risk Assessment (RAC) [release](#) shared information about the following:

- SEAC adopts final opinion to follow ECHA's proposal to restrict placing D4, D5 and D6 as substances in the market.
- SEAC agreed on its draft opinion on ECHA's proposal to restrict the use of five cobalt salts as substances on their own or in mixtures. RAC adopted its opinion on this restriction in February 2020.
- RAC adopts its opinion on France and Sweden's proposal to restrict skin sensitizing substances in finished textiles, leather, hide and further articles, placed on the market for the first time. Agreement on the SEAC draft opinion is postponed until June 2020.
- RAC and SEAC support Norway's proposal to restrict PFHxS (linear or branches)
- SEAC supported ECHA's proposal to restrict formaldehyde.

Agreements were not met regarding microplastics and discussions will continue in June. The release shared additional adoptions, which can be found in the [Annex](#).



## REGULATORY

### ECHA Adopts 14th ATP

CA Prop 65:  
Acetaminophen

## ECHA Adopts 14th ATP

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*Submitted by Gill Pagliuca/Denese Deeds*

In October of 2019, the European Commission [adopted the 14th Adaptation to Technical Progress \(ATP\)](#) to the Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) Regulation. The adoption included Annexes II, III and IV. The act was put forth to the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers. One controversial topic in the proposed amendments regarded titanium dioxide. This chemical is used widely across multiple industries and in a range of product types. In January, the European Parliament rejected the opposition regarding titanium dioxide's classification, and on February 18, 2020, the European Commission published the [regulation](#) with the classification. It will enter into force after 20 days, and harmonized classifications will apply from September 9, 2021.

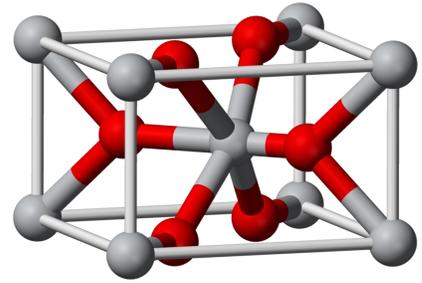


Photo credit: Wikipedia/Ben Mills

Use [this link](#) to find the delegated regulation C(2019)7227 and the Annex to C(2019)7227. They are available as PDF downloads.

There is also a [web form](#) intended to report potential errors with Annex IV to the CLP regulation.

## California Proposition 65: Acetaminophen

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California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) is considering listing acetaminophen as a carcinogen under Proposition 65. The public comment period is TBD as the Carcinogen Identification Committee has scheduling challenges posed by COVID-19. Public comments submitted thus far can be viewed and submitted by using these links:

[Information from the OEHHA and to submit Public Comments](#)  
[View Public Comments](#)





## REGULATORY

WHO Coronavirus Safety  
Video

## Coronavirus (COVID-19) Safety Video

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The World Health Organization created a video that can be shared remotely with your staff: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1APwg1df6Mw>

## SCHC

Volunteer Opportunities

## CONTACTS

Outreach and Newsletter  
Committee Reminder




**How is COVID-19 spread and how do you protect yourself against it?**

The materials in SCHC's web site/newsletter are provided "as is". SCHC makes no warranties, expressed or implied, and hereby disclaims and negates all other warranties, including without limitation, implied warranties or conditions of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, or non-infringement of intellectual property or other violation of rights. Further, SCHC does not warrant or make any representations concerning the accuracy, likely results, or reliability of the use of the materials on its Internet web site/newsletter or otherwise relating to such materials or on any sites linked to the site/newsletter.

## Call for Volunteers

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We invite readers to submit newsworthy items for the newsletter. In addition to notices and updates from regulatory agencies, we also seek stories that help our readers professionally develop and connect with others in the Hazcom Community. Submit your items to [socialmedia@schc.org](mailto:socialmedia@schc.org) and the Outreach Committee will be in touch. Submitting an item gives SCHC the right to use the content across multiple platforms.



**Volunteer to be featured in the SCHC Newsletter Membership Spotlight.** Contact the Outreach Committee to schedule an interview and share your journey of how you joined the field of hazard communication.

## OUTREACH AND NEWSLETTER REMINDER

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Please send all newsworthy newsletter topics to the Outreach Committee by email to [socialmedia@schc.org](mailto:socialmedia@schc.org).

