

Annual Report Summary

Toxics in Packaging Clearinghouse July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015

This report highlights the accomplishments of the Toxics in Packaging Clearinghouse (TPCH) from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 (FY15).

TPCH FY15 HIGHLIGHTS

- Conducted a compliance screening project focusing on two packaging types previously identified as potentially non-compliant with state toxics in packaging laws: flexible PVC and green glass wine bottles originating outside the U.S. The x-ray fluorescent (XRF) screening results indicated that flexible PVC packaging continues to be a source of non-compliant packaging with 18% of flexible PVC packaging screened found non-compliant. The highest incidences of non-compliant flexible PVC were in the pet supply (31%) and home furnishings (22%) product sectors. For green glass wine bottles, XRF screening confirmed that a high percentage (90%) of bottles originating in Argentina was non-compliant with state laws. The results of the screening project will be published in the fall 2015.
- Leveraged the compliance screening project to initiate coordinated state enforcement efforts. Member states obtained identical or similar products packaged in flexible PVC in their states, and the Washington State Department of Ecology confirmed the compliance status of the packaging using laboratory analysis. In FY16, companies selling or distributing these non-compliant packages will be notified, and required to bring their packaging into compliance with state laws or face potential state enforcement action.
- Launched a re-designed website in January 2015 and new TPCH logo.
- 15,022 visitors accessed the TPCH website in FY15, an average of 1,502 visitors each month.¹
- Convened 2-day annual membership meeting in October in Bloomington, Minnesota, hosted by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

¹ Based on 10 months, since Google analytics were not collected for a 2-month period after the launch of the new website.