Retailer Report Card

Ranking retailers on toxic chemicals

August 16, 2023

Cheri Peele & Mike Schade

Toxic-Free FUTURE

Mind the Store

Webinar Overview

- Background and purpose
- Overview of changes
- New list of high priority chemicals and plastics
- How retailers can engage in the RRC process
- Timeline and next steps
- Q & A

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Introductions and logistics

- Questions? type in questions in the “Q&A” section
- Webinar is being recorded, including Q&A *(however we won’t share who the questions came from)*
- Slides and recording will be shared via e-mail
- Today’s speakers:
  - Mike Schade, Director, Mind the Store, Toxic-Free Future
  - Cheri Peele, Senior Project Manager, Toxic-Free Future

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What we do

Scientific Research

Policy Advocacy

Market Transformation

Background and purpose

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Background on the Retailer Report Card (RRC)

- Benchmark safer chemicals policies and implementation
- Criteria – best in class approaches for retail safer chemicals management
- Evaluations of retailers based on publicly available information
- Highlight leaders and laggards
- Identifying opportunities for improvement

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Major Recent Progress in Retailer Performance on Safer Chemicals

	CHEMICAL USE REDUCTIONS							CHEMICAL POLICY						
Retailer	PRIORITY PRODUCTS to which reduction or policy applies	Bisphenols	Flame Retardants	PFAS	Phthalates	Plastics of EHC	Other CHCs	Adopted or Advanced	Restricted Substances	Environmental Justice	Ingredient Disclosure	Chemical Screening	Chemical Footprint	Safer Alternatives
7-Eleven	Food packaging			✔										
Ahold Delhaize	Not disclosed												✔	
ALDI	Apparel								✔				✔	
Amazon.com	Food packaging	✔		✔	✔	✔	✔		✔					
Apple	Cleaners						✔				✔	✔		✔
	Packaging					✔			✔		✔			
	Wearables						✔		✔		✔			✔
Bed Bath & Beyond	Baby personal care products						✔							
Best Buy	Electronics								✔		✔			
	Gift cards					✔			✔					
Chipotle	Food service			✔										
Costco	Formulated products										✔	✔		✔
CVS Health	Personal care						✔							
	Receipt paper	✔							✔					
Dollar General	Home cleaning and beauty/ personal care products							✔	✔		✔	✔		
Dollar Tree	Private label						✔				✔		✔	

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Driving a competitive race to the top

		Average "Class" Grade in:	
Retailers Graded for First TIme	**Number of Retailers**	**First Year Evaluated**	**Today**
Class of 2018	12	**F**	**D-**
Class of 2017	19	**D**	**C**
Class of 2016	**11**	**D+**	**B-**

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How do your favorite retailers rank?

Click for our detailed findings on the following retailers.

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New retailers being evaluated in 2023-2024

- Three retailers removed from the scorecard
  - Ace Hardware
  - Bed Bath and Beyond
  - L Brands
- Three new retailers:
  - LL Flooring (Lumber Liquidators)
  - Sherwin-Williams
  - PetSmart

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Overview of changes

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Key changes

- Emphasis on hazard reduction and safer solutions
- Greater focus on chemical classes and plastics of high concern
- Private-label and brand-name products
- Formulated products vs. articles
- Extra credit and some other criteria eliminated or folded into

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The Four Essential Elements for a Safer Marketplace

Corporate Commitment

Transparency

Ban the Bad

Safer Solutions

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Rubric: Four Essential Elements for a Safer Marketplace

	Corporate Commitment (20)
Policy	Corporate chemicals policy
Implementation	Management accountability
	Chemical Footprint Project
	Collaboration
	Public policy support
Metrics	

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Ranking retailers on toxic chemicals

Rubric: Four Essential Elements for a Safer Marketplace

	Corporate Commitment (20)	Transparency (40)
Policy	Corporate chemicals policy	Supply chain disclosure
Implementation	Management accountability	Supply chain accountability
	Chemical Footprint Project	Consumer ingredient disclosure
	Collaboration	
	Public policy support	
Metrics		Chemical footprint calculation

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Rubric: Four Essential Elements for a Safer Marketplace

	Corporate Commitment (20)	Transparency (40)	Ban the Bad (45)
Policy	Corporate chemicals policy	Supply chain disclosure	RSL/MRSL
Implementation	Management accountability	Supply chain accountability	Reduction/elimination goals
	Chemical Footprint Project	Consumer ingredient disclosure	
	Collaboration		
	Public policy support		
Metrics		Chemical footprint calculation	Documented hazard reduction

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Rubric: Four Essential Elements for a Safer Marketplace

	Corporate Commitment (20)	Transparency (40)	Ban the Bad (45)	Safer Solutions (50)
Policy	Corporate chemicals policy	Supply chain disclosure	RSL/MRSL	Definition of "safer alternative"
Implementation	Management accountability	Supply chain accountability	Reduction/elimination goals	Investment in safer solutions
	Chemical Footprint Project	Consumer ingredient disclosure		Implementation of known safer solutions
	Collaboration			
	Public policy support			
Metrics		Chemical footprint calculation	Documented hazard reduction	Quantified safer products

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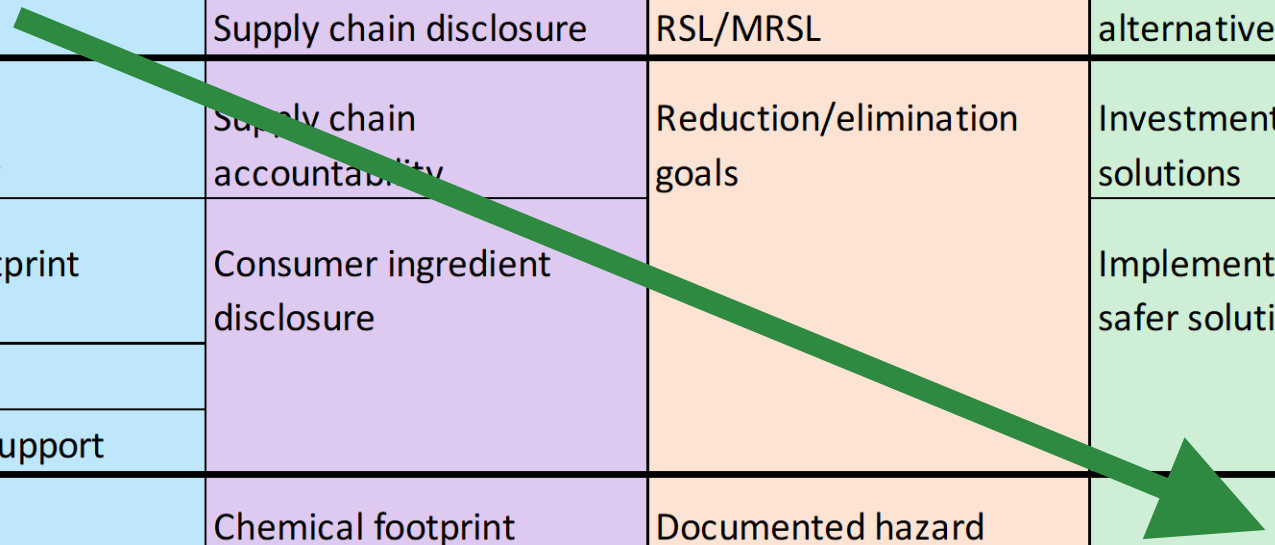

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Transparency: Weighting

	Corporate Commitment (20)	Transparency (40)	Ban the Bad (45)	Safer Solutions (50)
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Transparency: Weighting variables

- Formulated products vs. Articles
- Private label vs. Brand name
- Decision point: 80% of product portfolio

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New list of high priority chemicals and plastics

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New list of Mind the Store Priority Chemical Classes & Groups, Chemicals, and Plastics

- Chemicals and plastics under greater scientific and regulatory scrutiny
- Focus on hazard
  - Carcinogens, mutagens, reproductive toxicants (CMRs)
  - Persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic (PBTs)
  - Endocrine disruptors
- Class-based approach
  - Avoid trap of regrettable substitution
- Chemicals commonly found in products/packaging sold at retail
- High-hazard plastics
  - Monomers, feedstock chemicals, additives, toxic byproducts

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Types of substances on the list

- Chemical classes
  - Defined by similar structure (e.g. PFAS, *ortho*-phthalates)
  - Defined by similar structure and functional use (e.g. organohalogen flame retardants
  - Defined by functional use plus hazard (e.g. 6 ppd)
  - Some are a fixed list (e.g. heavy metals, benzophenones)
- Individual chemicals
  - Mostly for beauty products
- High priority plastics
  - New plastics added

Mind the Store Priority Chemical Classes & Groups

Mind the Store Priority Chemical Classes & Groups	Priority chemicals for beauty products of environmental justice concern
6PPD & related compounds[1]: Includes 6PPD and alternative chemicals used as anti-degradants in tire manufacturing with chemical hazard of GreenScreen Benchmark-1 or equivalent. Includes but is not limited to list below.	
6PPD [N-(1,3-Dimethylbutyl)-N'- phenyl-p-phenylenediamine]	
6QDI [N~1~-(4-Methylpentan-2-yl)- N~4~-phenylcyclohexa-2,5-diene- 1,4-diimine]	
7PPD [N-(5-Methyl-2-hexyl)-N'- phenyl-p-phenylenediamine]	
CCPD [N,N'-Dicyclohexyl-4- phenylenediamine]	
IPPD [N-Isopropyl-N'-phenyl-p- phenylenediamine]	
NBC [Nickel dibutyldithiocarbamate]	
Alkylphenols and alkylphenol ethoxylates[2]: Alkylphenol ethoxylates (APEs) as a class can be defined by the chemical structure in which a branched or linear alkyl chain is attached to a polyethoxylated phenolic ring. The general chemical formula of APEs is $C_nH_{2n+1}C_6H_5O(CH_2CH_2O)_m$, where 'n' represents the length of the alkyl chain and 'm' represents the number of repeating ethoxylate (EO) units.	●
Benzophenones: Fixed list below.	●
2,4-Dihydroxybenzophenon; Resbenzophenone; Benzophenone-1	●
Benzophenone	●
Benzophenone2	●
Oxybenzone, BP-3, Benzophenone-3	●

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How are the new high priority chemicals and plastics embedded into the criteria?

- Ban the Bad *(45 out of 155 points)*
  - Restricted Substance List / Manufacturing Restricted Substance List
  - Goals to reduce and eliminate chemicals and plastics
  - Reduction and elimination of chemicals and plastics *(last three years)*
  - Variable for each:
    - Number of chemicals, chemical classes, plastics
    - Number of major product, packaging, operations, or manufacturing categories

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How retailers can engage

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How retailers can engage

- Share your progress since 2021 – e-mail updates to cpeele@toxicFreefuture.org
- Are our assumptions correct?
- Opportunity to review draft score, disclose any additional progress, make new commitments
- Align development and implementation of retailer policies with updated criteria
- Meet one-on-one to discuss policy recommendations

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Timeline and next steps

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Timeline and next steps

- Scoring process has begun
- **Fall 2023** – draft scores sent to retailers
  - Review scores, disclose any additional progress, make new commitments
- **Winter 2023-2024** – scores finalized after review process, analysis of retail trends
- **Spring 2024** – retailer report card published

** Letter grading curve will be revised, still TBD based on scoring*

*** Additional changes to the criteria are possible*

Photo: https://www.flickr.com/photos/lofink/

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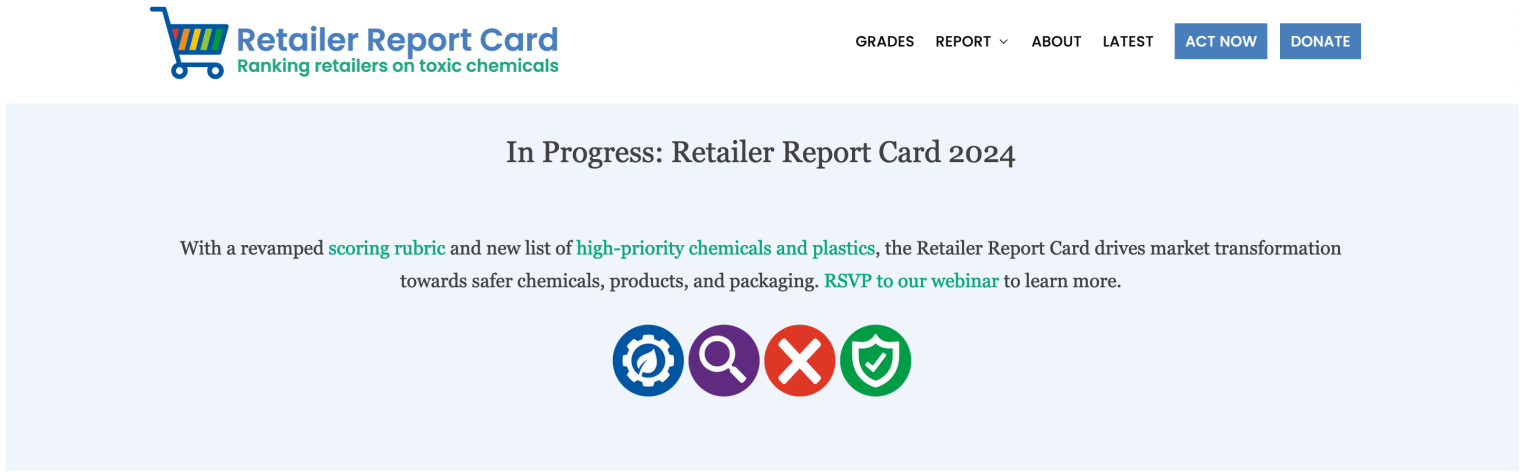
Learn more

- Review previous report cards at RetailerReportCard.com
- Download:
  - The Four Essential Elements for a Safer Marketplace
  - Summary of changes to the criteria
  - List of high priority chemicals and plastics
  - Updated glossary



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Thank you

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Q & A

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Transparency: Weighting scenario 1 (default)

	Formulated products	Articles	Subtotal
Private label	25%	25%	50%
Brand name	25%	25%	50%
Subtotal	50%	50%	100%

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Transparency: Weighting scenario 2

	Formulated products	Articles	Subtotal
Private label			
Brand name			
Subtotal	80%		

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Transparency: Weighting scenario 2

	Formulated products	Articles	Subtotal
Private label			
Brand name			
Subtotal	80%	20%	100%

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Transparency: Weighting scenario 2

	Formulated products	Articles	Subtotal
Private label	40%	10%	50%
Brand name	40%	10%	50%
Subtotal	80%	20%	100%

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Transparency: Weighting scenario 3

	Formulated products	Articles	Subtotal
Private label			
Brand name			
Subtotal		80%	

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Transparency: Weighting scenario 4

	Formulated products	Articles	Subtotal
Private label		80%	
Brand name			
Subtotal			

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Transparency: Weighting scenario 5

	Formulated products	Articles	Subtotal
Private label	80%		
Brand name			
Subtotal			

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Transparency: Weighting restaurants

	Formulated products	Articles	Subtotal
Private label	n/a	100%	
Brand name	n/a	n/a	
Subtotal			

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	Corporate Commitment (20)	Transparency (40)	Ban the Bad (45)	Safer Solutions (50)
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