

# New England Green Chemistry Initiative

Great Lakes Green Chemistry Network Webinar  
October 10, 2012

# In the Beginning.....

- Region 1 efforts began in earnest in 2010
  - MIT Conference December 2010
- Excellent attendance from all sectors involved in GC
- Six workgroups formed
- 2011
- June 2011 forum
- Hired a dedicated GC staff

# Business and Venture Capital

## Project/ Effort

- Working with multi-stakeholder groups business to identify safer product alternatives
  - Business (Fitchburg MA-based Co.)
  - Academia (U Mass Amherst)
  - Government
    - USEPA ( Region 1 and Cincinnati)
    - MA OTA
- Biz/NGO et al.
- Seventh Generation Burlington VT
- Venture Capital group  
(9/19/12)

## Intended Outcome

- Improves worker safety, reduces environmental damage, saves money
- Convince investors that investing in green chemistry economically smart

# Healthcare and NGO

## Project/Effort

- Safer alternatives for hospital research labs
- Identifying bio-based alternatives to petroleum based plastics in healthcare
- Healthcare is 17-20 percent of the economy on NE
- “The Market” is asking for alternatives

## Intended Outcome

- Reduces risks to workers
- Reduced risk to patients, encourages use of renewable feed-stocks, reduces waste
- Provides safer, healthier, sustainable choices

# Education and Academic Research

## Project/Effort

- Education and Academic Research
  - Green Chemistry Commitment
  - RA involvement
- Toxicology and Sustainable Molecular Design Conference  
December 11, 2012; UConn

## Intended Outcome

- Training the next generation of chemists
- Expanding the idea of safer chemical design beyond chemistry
- Providing the academic community with national, unified EPA RA support
- Enhance communication between toxicologists and chemists

# Government Programs and Policies

## Project/Effort

- Green Chemistry Social Network
- New England Green Chemistry Achievement Award (in draft)
- **New England Green Chemistry Success Showcase (10/24/12-Memorial Hall)**

## Intended Outcome

- Improved communication
- Provide technical and policy resources
- Provides recognition and incentives for continued advancement toward safer, healthier and sustainable goals
- Provides a forum to acknowledge achievement and promote dialogue among various stakeholders

# Opportunities for collaboration

- Green chemistry is by its very nature multidisciplinary....
  - Reexamine the 12 Principles
- As is toxicology and environmental science
  - 21<sup>st</sup> century toxicology

# Conclusions

- Green chemistry is advancing in New England
  - Other leaders as well
    - Great Lakes GC Network
    - Oregon
    - Michigan, Minnesota and Maine
    - California and many others
- Green chemistry serves and essential role in sustainability
  - “Pollution prevention at the molecular level”



# Contact Information

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