New HQ for SFC!
SFC has moved to a new High Point office - in the Radio Building, 164 South Main Street. Come see us when it is safe! In the meantime, send all correspondence to our new mailing address: P.O. Box 21, High Point, NC 27261.

SFC Educational Opportunities

Join SFC for our May **Sustainability Essentials** Webinar

**Circularity in Furnishings**

Thursday, May 21, noon Eastern

What we throw away is now the world's most abundant natural resource. Why aren't we using more of it as a production feedstock? Furniture is a durable good - intended to last a long time. Why, then, do we throw so much of it away? Join us for a discussion with Jamie Facciola, an award-winning social entrepreneur whose work on developing local solutions to circular economy challenges has been covered in BBC News, Fast Company and Greenbiz. She will share her most recent project, a photo mini-blog about furniture waste, and inspire us with a discussion. There is much potential in the opportunity to use what we already have, especially as we rebuild our economy in recovery from the COVID-19 crisis.

Content also includes a synopsis of GREENleaders, the industry's first certified sustainability training course. This webinar is intended to give participants useful information you can begin using in your business immediately as well as answer any questions you may have about getting the most out of SFC Membership.

Register Today

Did you miss April's webinar: JUST ONE? Check out the recording!

Earth Day Webinar: **Sustainability in Design + Furnishings**
Earth Day, April 22, 11am EST, U.S. & Canada

IFDA NY will be in conversation with Susan Inglis, Executive Director of SFC, and you're invited! She will be answering that most frequently asked question, "What is Sustainable Furniture, Anyway?"

Learn what sustainability issues we impact as we make choices in our furnishings, then learn some key questions to ask and answers to look for as you specify product, whether furnishings or accessories, in wood, leather, textiles, etc. Content includes an overview of Sustainable Furnishings Council’s work and an impression of the popular certified sustainability training course GREENleaders.

Join the Zoom meeting HERE!

Meeting ID: 836 3666 5167
One tap mobile
+19292056099,83636665167# US (New York)
+13126266799,83636665167# US (Chicago)

Course Number: CEU-104621

Learning Level: Basic -- Designation: Health, Safety, Welfare -- Subject Code: 3. Interior Design Education / 1. Instruction

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Live GREENleaders Class ONLINE
May 11, 13, 15; 12-2pm eastern each day

Special rates for ReNEWing Green APs and for students/educators: $99 - call us!

This popular 6-hour certificate course provides an excellent grounding in sustainability issues and offers practical solutions for growing an eco-friendly home furnishings business. Developed in 2009 by a LEED AP, in conjunction with the Sustainable Furnishings Council, the course is updated with input from experts including ranking staff of World Wildlife Fund, National Wildlife Federation, Center for Environmental Health, Climate Reality Project and others. It delivers a comprehensive overview, cutting edge advice, and inspirational ideas in 6 units. GREENleaders training gives designers, retailers, manufacturers, reps, and others the knowledge and credentials they need to become experts in sustainability.

Register

Approved by GBCI for 6 CE hours and registered with IDCEC for .6 HSW CEUs (6 ceu).

Click Here For more details on this comprehensive training program.

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Time to renew Your GREEN AP?

Renewal Form

#SFCTips

More time spent away from the office has consumers reconnecting with their families and the environment in new ways. Baking bread from scratch. Crafts with the kids. Planting vegetable gardens. Raising chickens. You can connect your brand to this “maker movement” by telling your story from an artisanal angle. Where do your materials come from? Who are the craftsmen that assemble them? What sustainable practices are embedded in your production and packaging process? Reach out to our new Business Development, Marketing and PR consultants at Nina Reeves Communications for more ideas on how to tell your story.
Membership News
SFC Welcomes Our New Members....

...and Thanks Those Renewing!

HFA offers resources to members and others in the industry
Follow this link for insight and links to information you need to run your business while protecting the health
and safety of your employees and customers.

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**Steelyard Launches High Point at Home**

Steelyard is partnering with the High Point Market Authority to help exhibitors showcase their April market introductions to thousands of interior design professionals who specify products for hundreds of thousands of projects annually. Dubbed High Point at Home, the project allows brands and manufacturers that exhibit at High Point Market and that actively work with the design trade, a free online platform to present their new products, offer their market sales promotions and provide showroom videos, all at no charge.

[Learn more](#)

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**Call For Entries - Pinnacle Green Leaf Award**

Calling for your entries! Bring us your best! This is your opportunity to enter your designs in any of the 21 categories for this 24th annual competition. As a finalist and a winner, your designs will be publicized and promoted to retailers in the US and around the world. Winning products will also earn the right to bear the 2020 Pinnacle Winner logo on all related media, literature, and packaging. We need your great designs! Don’t wait, enter now! The deadline for fall 2020 awards is July 31st!

[Click HERE](#) to enter!

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**Submit your GREEN design project for the IDS #getyourgreenon Design Award. Deadline is May 15!**
Wood Furniture Scorecard 2020 assessments are underway!

All SFC Retail Members are included. Contact us for any help you need in developing a responsible wood sourcing policy - it's free!

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Apply here!
We hope everyone is healthy and staying safe. We are writing to share that the Center’s Emission Factors Hub has been updated to help organizations develop their annual corporate GHG inventories. The Emission Factors Hub provides organizations with easy-to-use default emission factors for organizational greenhouse gas reporting. Emission factors have been updated for onsite, mobile combustion, and other factors derived from the US GHG Inventory; business travel and product transport; and purchased electricity emission factors from EPA’s Emissions & Generation Resource Integrated Database (eGRID). We added emission factors for waste from onsite generation and use of sold products and provide guidance for how to use them.

At Healthy Materials Lab we're working to gain a greater understanding of what it means to improve the quality of all lives during this unprecedented time. At the moment, we can offer continued access to our online learning program: Healthier Materials and Sustainable Building and we hope you can use it as a stepping stone to a brighter and healthier future.

In this self-paced program, content is delivered by 58 leading experts in the fields of architecture, design, science, sustainability, and materiality. In a time where we're indoors more than ever, understanding design's impact on human health is paramount-- these experts can help guide the way.

**Registration for the summer session is now open!**

We firmly believe that this content should be accessible to everyone. The base price for the 4-course program, with 24 hours of expert guidance, has been discounted to $180. If you are facing job or financial insecurity we can offer you Materials and Human Health (course 1 of 4) at no cost. Email healthymaterialslab@newschool.edu for the discount code.

Completion of the program qualifies participants for 18 AIA and 23.4 IDCEC HSW CEUs. If you would like to use this moment to get more of your firm onboard we offer additional discounts for group registration of 5+ team members (they don't have to be based in the same office/country).

We move forward- encouraged that together, design can help shape a brighter, healthier future.

Contact Catherine Murphy, Senior Research Associate, Healthy Materials Lab for more details.

Learn More

**Join SFC at the rescheduled WELL Conference!**

August 16-19, 2020

Learn more & register here.

Save Small Businesses to Save Our Economy

Small businesses are on the line and the decisions we make now could make or break our economy. The CARES Act was intended as a downpayment to help small businesses survive, but even that downpayment isn’t getting to where it’s needed fast enough. It is time for Congress to step up.
In order to reopen our businesses, we must have a healthcare strategy that includes comprehensive testing and other necessary medical protocols to assure that we can safely restart our economy. Instead of arbitrary deadlines, our government must develop this strategy NOW!

The health care strategy must be matched with an economic strategy, which the American Sustainable Business Council, the American Independent Business Alliance (AMIBA) and other business organizations have developed. “The Next Steps to Keep American Business Alive” are crucial to helping small and mid-sized local and independent businesses (including farms and fishers) across the United States survive the pandemic until they are able to safely reopen.

We are adding a comprehensive health care strategy to our economic call and placing the demand for that health strategy at the top of this list because our ultimate goal is to permit our businesses to reopen as soon as it is safely possible. That can’t happen without testing and the other health protocols necessary to make us as safe as possible, as well as restore the confidence of our employees and our customers.

Join us in sending these seven demands to all 535 members of Congress and the President and Vice President.

1. Implement a comprehensive healthcare strategy IMMEDIATELY that includes widespread testing along with other necessary medical protocols so that businesses can re-open safely and as soon as possible.
2. Fund the SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) advance NOW!
3. Implement the new unemployment benefits NOW!
4. Expand and Modify the CARES Act Payroll Protection Program (PPP)
   - Increase by at least $250 Billion
   - Make the origination date of a PPP loan be the first day that small businesses can legally fully open.
   - Expand to maximum payroll loan amounts to three months after businesses can legally fully open.
   - Provide support for new and smaller businesses in applying NOW!
5. Action is needed to meet the needs of 1099 and gig workers.
6. Action is needed to provide support for people of color, immigrants, and low-income communities and business owners hard hit by the Pandemic.
7. Action is necessary to ensure the resilience of the small-scale and mid-sized farmers, fishers, and ranchers that feed our communities and provide the goods on which many local businesses depend.

SIGN ON TO SAVE OUR ECONOMY NOW!

If you’ve already signed, please call your Senators and Representative to demand they act immediately.

Safer Chemicals Policies to Get Boost

The goal of the ASBC-BizNGO Safer Chemicals Public Policy Work Group is to tackle an ambitious agenda of safer chemicals policies, building on the combined strengths of the two partner organizations. Founded in 2006, Clean Production Action’s BizNGO is a collaboration of forward-leading business people and the NGO community, with a mission to inform and influence federal and state chemicals legislation and regulation. ASBC has made educating and engaging business leaders on state and federal chemical public policy a priority. Its “Companies for Safer Chemicals” initiatives have engaged some of the top business leaders to successfully support the passage of chemical policies across the country. To become involved, please contact Ali-Reza Vahabzadeh, ASBC Vice President of Membership.

ASBC Supporting the Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act

ASBC gave its support to the Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act, which was introduced into Congress by U.S. Senator Tom Udall (D-N.M.), U.S. Representative Alan Lowenthal (D-Calif.), and U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.). The proposed legislation would phase out unnecessary single-use plastic products, hold corporations accountable for wasteful products, reduce wasteful packaging, and reform our broken waste and recycling collection system. Learn more about ASBC’s Sustainable Packaging Campaign and learn how to get
ASBC Opposes Trump's Replacement Water Rule

In a conclusion to the process started over a year ago, Trump’s EPA has finalized the replacement of the Clean Water Rule. The changes implemented under the new Navigable Waters Protection Rule leave clean water protections in the country the weakest they have been in 50 years. To fight back, ASBC is supporting legislative responses such as the Clean Water Resolution introduced by Representatives Pappas and Dingell. Stay up-to-date with opportunities for action!

Join ASBC to build a sustainable economy and receive a 20% discount on your first year's membership with the promo code SFC100.

FSC By the Numbers as of April 2020

- 2,483 CoC Certificates, US
- 43,486 CoC Certificates, Worldwide
- 3,714 Companies CoC certified, US
- 35.2 Million Acres Certified forest area, US
- 154.7 Million Acres Certified forest area, US & Canada
- 521.3 Million Acres Certified forest area, Worldwide

What's it made of?

The "What's it made of?" Initiative is a joint initiative of SFC, American Sustainable Business Council, Center for Environmental Health, Healthy Materials Lab at Parsons School of Design, and others to encourage transparency in supply chains and stimulate innovation for the reduction of harmful chemicals in furnishings. Take the pledge and learn more about avoiding VOC's like formaldehyde, flame retardants, highly fluorinated stain treatments, antimicrobials and PVC, or vinyl!

Join SFC!

A Message from Susan Inglis, SFC Executive Director:

The coronavirus crisis continues to bring us many surprises and disruptions. We hope you are coping OK and that SOME of the surprises delight you. But most of our industry is reeling, especially with no spring market. For our Sustainability Essentials series this month we were pleased to offer a virtual Guide to Green at HPMKT, calling out JUST ONE step that each SFC exhibitor is taking to reduce environmental footprint. If you missed it, you can view the recording at this link. To learn more about the significance of each step we take, read this article from our fine friends at HPMK Authority and Furniture Lighting & Decor.

It is going to take a lot to pull ourselves out of the layers of crisis of this novel coronavirus. But we will come out of it, and I expect we will find we have learned lessons about how we are all interconnected and about how every step we take matters. We are hopeful that together we will manage to sustain a healthy future. We are confident the economy will re-build greener as we come out of this crisis. People are noticing the reduced pollution, the
less-invaded natural world, and are more concerned about wellness. It seems we are waking up and taking responsibility.

If you are not already involved, please consider joining SFC. Your customers are sure to respond - they want to know what you are doing to preserve the environment. SFC membership is a way of letting them know you care, and of getting the tools and resources you need to reduce your corporate environmental footprint. SFC is eager to help.

Please contact Susan or Angie Kenny, Member Services Manager.
See all Benefits of SFC Membership

Thank You to Our Generous Sponsors!