

Sustainable Furnishings Council eNewsletter October 2020



A Message from Susan Inglis, SFC Executive Director



It's election time! I hope this finds you - and everyone you know - registered to vote AND with a voting plan in place. I hope you know what a difference your participation makes.

Just like the reduction of our industry's environmental footprint depends on our - all of us - making better decisions in energy use and in supply chain management, the function of a democracy depends upon everyone's participation. Participating is more challenging for some than for others. In the COVID-19 era, especially, it is a good thing that we have options in how we cast our ballots - early by mail, early in person, or even on November 3rd in person. Make sure you vote and make sure everyone you know votes. Keep in mind that the last election was decided by fewer than 80,000 votes in 3 states - that is just 0.06% of the vote. Every little bit matters to sustaining a healthy future. Whether it includes [High Point Market](#) or not, I know you have a busy fall schedule! Use ASBC's [new interactive voter + poll-worker resource hub](#) to quickly access any how-to-vote info you may need. YOU matter, every work day AND every election day!

Please contact [Susan](#) or [Angie Kenny](#), Member Services Manager.
See all [Benefits](#) of SFC Membership

SFC Educational Opportunities



[The Sustainable Furnishings Council presents: The Green Ribbon Awards](#)

Tuesday, October 13, noon - 1 PM EST



Discover which new products at High Point Market were awarded an inaugural "Green Ribbon" based on their design, sustainability, and ingenuity. Judges are Sustainable Furnishings Council Ambassadors, and will share how they would incorporate these and other earth-friendly pieces into their upcoming projects. Featuring **John Douglas Eason, Jennifer Jones, Anelle Gandelman, Laurence Carr** and moderated by **Breegan Jane**.



Breegan Jane



John Eason



Jennifer Jones



Anelle Gandelman



Laurence Carr

[Register Today](#)



[Environmental Update: Our Industry's Impact on the Earth and One Way You Can Help](#)

Thursday, October 15, noon - 1 PM EST

2020 Wood Furniture Scorecard results will be announced!

Furniture adds the highest value to the wood resource, and is the #3 consumer of wood globally,

which makes our industry very important to saving the forests of the world. Meet companies that have earned Top Score status on the **2020 WOOD FURNITURE SCORECARD**. Learn how they do their part to save the forests of the world, recognizing they are crucial not only to ensure we have wood for furniture in future generations, but also for slowing global warming, keeping our waters clean, and maintaining wildlife habitat. SFC Ambassador **Laura Hodges** will lead the discussion with representatives from the Top Score retailers, celebrating their commitments and beautiful product sourcing choices.



Laura Hodges

Content also includes a synopsis of GREENleaders, the industry's first certified sustainability training course. Expect useful information you can begin using in your business immediately and answers to questions you may have about getting the most out of SFC membership.

[Register Today](#)

Did you miss the September webinar: Antimicrobials in Furnishings in the Time of COVID-19? Check out the [recording!](#)

Here is our HPMKT Guide to Green, click [HERE](#) to download the guide!

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE
You will see all SFC Members listed, and the manufacturers that normally exhibit during High Point Market are highlighted in green. Click on their names to link to more information about the company and their location during market. You can Register for our virtual market webinars on the last page.

GUIDE TO GREEN @HPMKT

THE SUSTAINABLE FURNISHINGS COUNCIL IS A COALITION OF MANUFACTURERS, RETAILERS, AND DESIGNERS DEDICATED TO RAISING AWARENESS AND EXPANDING THE ADOPTION OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES ACROSS THE HOME FURNISHINGS INDUSTRY.

MEMBERS ARE COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABILITY AND TRANSPARENT ABOUT HOW THEY ARE LIVING THEIR COMMITMENT

SHOP WITH THEM TODAY,
whether you are attending this fall's **High Point Market** or not!

["What's it made of?" Dr. Arlene Blum tells us about the Chemical Class Approach for Healthier Furniture, People, & Environment](#)

Thursday, November 5, noon - 1 PM EST

Rather than addressing the thousands of chemicals of concern one at a time, the chemical class approach provides a basis for decision makers in government and business to reduce the use of entire families of harmful chemicals. The Green Science Policy Institute developed the class approach so that regrettable substitutions can be avoided and improved policy and purchasing decisions can contribute to healthier products, people and environment.

Arlene Blum PhD, biophysical chemist, author, and mountaineer is executive director of the Green Science Policy Institute and a Research Associate in Chemistry at UC Berkeley. The Institute's scientific research and policy work with government and business has contributed to preventing the use of "Six Classes" of harmful chemicals including flame retardants and PFAS in consumer products world-wide. More information is available at www.greensciencepolicy.org and www.arleneblum.com.



[Dr. Arlene Blum](#)

[Register Today](#)

GREENleaders

Certified Sustainability Training

This popular 6-hour exam program 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 now updated with input from experts in the field including ranking staff of World Wildlife Fund, Rainforest Alliance, and National Wildlife Federation. 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.

Try GREENleaders [online](#) — learn at your own pace!

Approved by [GBCI for 6 CE hours](#) and registered with [IDCEC for .6 HSW CEUs \(6 ceu\)](#). Please visit our [website](#) for more details on this comprehensive training program.



Time to renew Your GREEN AP?

[Renewal Form](#)

#SFCTips

October Tip: Sustainable Workforces



Sustainability goes beyond our raw materials — it touches every stage of the supply chain, including the people whose hands build each blocked corner, tie each spring, fuse each wire, and send each email. In this month's Green Tip, we invite you to tell their stories. How are you making life better for the workers in your factory or supply chain? What programs exist to support their families? How have you addressed safety in light of the pandemic for all your employees, domestic and abroad. Supporting each other's wellbeing ensures not just the sustainability of our companies, but the sustainability of our industry.

We're in this together. For ideas, reach out to the team at:

NINA REEVES COMMUNICATIONS

Membership News SFC Welcomes Our New Members....



...and Thanks Those Renewing!





Selecting Healthier Carpet, Flooring & Furniture: Tips and Tools for Purchasers

October 14, 3 PM EST

Wherever you are working, your indoor furnishings affect your air quality and impact your health. Furniture and flooring products often contain a host of toxic chemicals, affecting not only you--the user--but also those involved in manufacturing, maintenance and disposal of these products. But healthier products are available!

Learn about:

- Health and environmental concerns of chemicals used in carpet, resilient flooring and furniture
- How to earn LEED and other credits by transitioning to healthier products
- New, health-protective product standards
- Tools and resources to help you select healthier options
- Market availability of healthier, more sustainable products

This webinar is designed for procurement and supply chain staff, sustainability leaders, architects and designers, green teams and other interested individuals. Whether these topics are new to you, or you just need a refresher, this webinar will give you the essential tools and information you need to make healthier choices.

[Register Today!](#)



The Wellness Experience, October 20-21

Introducing the launch of THE WELLNESS EXPERIENCE Virtual Summit, powered by 6Connex and created by [Organic Spa Media](https://www.ospa.me).

This exciting two-day virtual summit will feature wellness content and live experiences from leading experts, wellness advocates and influencers worldwide. Participants will be able to learn, engage and immerse themselves into the ever-growing world of wellness living, natural beauty and global wellness travel.

[Register Today!](https://www.ospa.me/register)



LivABLE Environment Conference, October 28-30

On October 28-30, join industry trade professionals from around the world at the virtual LivABLE Environment Conference, where we explore new perspective to improve residential design for living in place and wellness in the home. Sustainable Furnishing Council members receive a complimentary GUEST PASS with full access to download all the presentations.

Just use **promo code: SFCmember** to receive your pass. CEU credits apply.

[Register Today!](https://www.livablecanada.com)



TextileExchange Sustainability Conference Virtually, November 2-6

The 2020 Virtual Textile Sustainability Conference offers an unparalleled opportunity to **EXPLORE** emerging trends and opportunities in sustainability, **CONNECT** with a diverse group of change-makers from around the globe and **LEARN** from expert's on today's most pressing sustainability topics.

We're taking pulse of the evolving impacts of COVID-19 in the global fashion/apparel and textile industry and how the unfolding situation is affecting every aspect of the supply chain. Insight, analysis and best practices will be woven into conference sessions. Click [HERE](#) to learn why you should attend.

[Register Today!](#)

Conference registration is not required to attend the Round Table meetings and the Basics of Sustainability Workshop but separate registration is required to attend those events.

- October 20 and 22: Virtual Basics of Sustainability Workshop (Limited Availability - Free to Attend)
 - Option 1: [Tuesday, October 20 @ 7 am PST/10 am EST/4 pm CEST](#)
 - Option 2: [Thursday, October 22 @ 6 am CEST/Noon HKT](#)
- November 2-6: 2020 Textile Sustainability Conference
- December 7-18: Register for the [Round Table Summits](#)



HFA offers resources to members and others in the industry

The Home Furnishings Association is here to help members during this new economy. On this [page](#), members will find the information they need to navigate these difficult times — from small business loans to human resource issues to special tax benefits. And because we believe our greatest benefit as an association is collaboration, we're posting stories from our members just like you about best practices that are working.

[Learn More](#)



AUCTION TO BENEFIT HUNGER RELIEF.
NOVEMBER 2020

PRESENTED BY



Celebrating Hearts & Heroes

The Hearts Awards, a one-time special event, celebrate hearts and heroes who showed outstanding leadership, empathy and service during the pandemic. SFC is proud to participate. Honorees have just been [announced](#) by Dallas Market Center. Join us January 8 to celebrate them!

[Learn More](#)



AMERICAN SUSTAINABLE
BUSINESS COUNCIL

Help Wanted: Business leaders to engage voters

The November 2020 election is likely the most consequential of our lifetimes (and given climate change, of our descendants' as well). ASBC's [campaign](#) for a free, fair election conveys the high stakes to business leaders, urging them to vote and help their employees, communities and other stakeholders vote, too.

What to say? ASBC's new one-page fact sheet makes the business case. See "[Business for Democracy: Why the Vote Matters](#)." Please share it widely!



USGBC-LA events support sustainability and build community around the greater Los Angeles region through education, thought leadership, and valuable connections. Every event from local [Branches](#), [Committees](#) meetings, Trainings, Tours, Conferences, or even Ping Pong is a moment designed to lead to impact and action. Please join us!

[Click here for other upcoming community events](#) brought to you by our partner organizations.



FSC by the numbers as of September 2020

2,462 CoC Certificates, US	3,811 Companies CoC certified, US
45,603 CoC Certificates, Worldwide	35.2 Million Acres Certified forest area, US
154.7 Million Acres Certified forest area, US & Canada	526.8 Million Acres Certified forest area, Worldwide

What's it made of?

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!



Ready for the next step?



Thank You to Our Generous Sponsors!



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.

This message sent from:
Sustainable Furnishings Council

PO Box 21
High Point, NC 27261
United States

www.sustainablefurnishings.org

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