

TOXIC

FLAME RETARDANTS

A GLOBAL
PUBLIC
HEALTH
CONCERN

THURS, MARCH 8 · 6:30-8PM

MACAULAY HONORS COLLEGE

35 WEST 67TH ST, NEW YORK

RSVP: EJNYC.EVENTBRITE.COM

SPACE IS LIMITED

YOU ARE INVITED

Due to a unique and ineffective California flammability standard, potentially toxic flame retardants are “de facto” required in the foam in all furniture and baby products sold in California and much of North America. The chemicals leak from furniture and other products and end up in humans, animals, and the food supply. They accumulate in body fat and are associated with neurological, reproductive, endocrine, and thyroid disorders, as well as cancer. Human biomonitoring studies have found flame retardants from furniture in the blood of nearly all Americans. The highest levels are found in young children, whose rapidly developing brains and reproductive systems are vulnerable to long lasting endocrine-disrupting effects. However, other fire safety strategies that are effective and do not endanger our health are available. Come learn more at this special event.

FEATURING:

Dr. Arlene Blum

Founder and Executive Director
Green Science Policy Institute

Brian Kavanagh

Assembly Member, New York State, District 74

Eve Gartner

Staff Attorney, Earthjustice

Matt Vinci

President, Professional Firefighters of Vermont



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MAIN SPEAKER

Dr. Arlene Blum

Founder and Executive Director
The Green Science Policy Institute.

Dr. Blum is a biophysical chemist, visiting scholar at U.C. Berkeley's Department of Chemistry, and author of *Annapurna: A Woman's Place* and *Breaking Trail: A Climbing Life*. Blum's research contributed to the regulation of two cancer-causing flame retardants used in children's sleepwear, and prevented a dozen unnecessary flammability standards that would have led to the use of hundreds of millions of pounds of toxic chemicals each year.



PANELIST SPEAKERS

Brian Kavanagh

Assembly Member, New York State, District 74

Brian Kavanagh has served as a member of the New York State Assembly since January 2007, representing the East Side of Manhattan. In the Assembly he has focused on legislation and policy changes to create a fairer and more open political process, support and preserve affordable housing, protect the environment, promote economic justice and a more humane society, and provide for greater accountability in the ways government agencies and public authorities spend our tax dollars.



Eve Gartner

Staff Attorney, Earthjustice

Eve Gartner specializes in environmental health issues after working for over fifteen years as a litigator focusing on reproductive health issues—first as a senior staff attorney at the Center for Reproductive Rights and later as Deputy Director of the litigation department at Planned Parenthood Federation of America where she litigated high-impact cases, including arguing before the U.S. Supreme Court.



Matt Vinci

President, Professional Firefighters of Vermont

Matt Vinci has worked closely with environmental groups to advocate for Vermont to ban the use of a toxic flame retardant called Deca and replace it with safer alternatives.



SPECIAL THANKS to Kathy Curtis, Executive Director for Clean and Healthy New York, and Alice LeBlanc, for helping make this event possible.