



**For Immediate Release**

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Contact: Cheryl Osimo, Silent Spring Institute, [cherylosimo@comcast.net](mailto:cherylosimo@comcast.net), (508) 362-2882

## Silent Spring Institute Lunchtime Research Update

### **Barnstable Town Manager John Klimm will host a public meeting to update citizens on Silent Spring Institute's recent research projects**

**WHEN:** Wednesday, November 12, 2008  
Presentation – 12:00-1:00 p.m. (Lunch will be served)  
Q&A – 1:00-1:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Town of Barnstable, Town Hall - Second Floor Hearing Room  
367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA 02601

**WHO:** Silent Spring Institute research staff – Robin Dodson and Kathleen Attfield

### **Product testing suggests ways to reduce chemical exposures in the home**

Silent Spring Institute previously detected 67 endocrine disruptors in air and dust in homes on Cape Cod, providing the first reported measurements in indoor environments for more than 30 of the compounds. Now, as part of the Household Exposure Study, researchers are trying to determine whether levels of certain chemicals in people's homes and bodies can be reduced by using different household cleaning and personal care products. The Institute's long-term goal will be to understand the sources of these pollutants and their effects on health. As a first step, researchers have tested a group of conventional and alternative products for 50 compounds, including phthalates, parabens, antimicrobials, and fragrance chemicals. Preliminary results and recommendations will be discussed.

### **Hear updates on other Silent Spring Institute research, including:**

- Old wood floor finishes in some homes may be an overlooked source of exposure to the now banned environmental pollutants PCBs
- Elevated levels of toxic flame retardant PBDEs found in California homes and people
- Residential Septic Systems Contaminate Ponds with Human Hormones and Pharmaceuticals