

# Ellen R. Tohn

Tohn Environmental Strategies, LLC 5 Fields Lane Wayland, MA 01778 508-358-7770 phone etohn@tohnenvironmental.com

# **Professional Experience**

#### TOHN ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGIES Wayland, MA

1992-Present

Founder and Principal: Environmental and health consulting firm (formerly ERT Associates).

### **Green and Healthy Housing Leader**

- Authored green and healthy housing standards and reports for the U.S. EPA, U.S. Centers for Disease Control, National Center for Healthy Housing, and Asthma Regional Council of New England. Advisor to U.S. Green Building Council, LEED and Enterprise Green Communities programs.
- Managed federally funded research to assess the health benefits to asthmatic children of housing repairs. Coordinated research on health benefits of home energy retrofits.
- Designed One Touch: Creating Healthier and Energy Efficient Housing program, piloted in NH and Nebraska.
- Developed indoor air quality specifications for architectural firms, housing developers, and contractors.
- Developed green & health property management practices and related training, affecting over 150,000 housing units.
- Developed EPA, state, and local program health protocols for home energy retrofits and related training.
- Frequent trainer and speaker, over 8,000 trained. Developed nationally recognized green & healthy housing training.

#### **Catalyst for Environmental Health Improvements**

- Directly influenced six Federal regulations supporting meaningful progress on childhood lead poisoning. Coordinated national advocacy campaigns and technical studies to bolster advocacy efforts. Resulting Federal programs improved health conditions in 38 million homes and shaped regulations in all 50 states.
- Created regional program promoting healthy construction practices, which has led to state and local policy changes improving health conditions in 15,000 existing homes and 3,500 new homes built annually.
- Advised development of innovative multi family energy efficiency program.
- Developed pioneering environmental hazard assessment protocols used in over 3,500 homes nationwide.

#### Strategic & Management Advisory Services

• Principal strategic advisor, over 14-year period, to two national non-profit environmental health organizations. Facilitated non-profit organizational transition and creation of for-profit small business subsidiary.

#### **Early Stage Organizational Leadership**

- Strategic advisor to the Asthma Regional Council of New England. Guided start up activities, secured core funding (over \$800,000), hired key staff, and developed evaluation measures.
- Provided strategic direction to multi-disciplinary asthma task force at the Newport Rhode Island Housing Authority.
  Implemented groundbreaking asthma survey, secured health driven modifications in maintenance practices, and structured pioneering home assessment responses for asthmatic residents.

**Clients** include Federal Agencies (Centers for Disease Control, Department of Energy, Environmental Protection Agency, and Department of Housing and Urban Development); state/local environmental and health agencies; housing developers and property owners; architectural and engineering firms; green housing programs; and non-profit organizations.

### Ellen R. Tohn

JELLINECK, SCWARTZ & CONOLLY, INC. Washington, DC

1988-1992

Developed environmental strategies and programs for Fortune 500 companies.

OFFICE OF POLICY ANALYSIS, US EPA Washington, DC

1986-1988

Developed and implemented methodology comparing environmental health risks.

PROGRAM ON NEGOTIATION, HARVARD LAW SCHOOL Cambridge, MA

1984

Evaluated use of negotiation in utility rate and real estate disputes.

### **Selected Publications and Reports**

- Creating Healthy and Energy Efficient Housing: What Does the Research Tell Us?, Home Energy, 2012.
- Healthy Homes Guidance Manual, US Department of Housing and Urban Development, contributing author, 2011.
- Healthy Housing Opportunities During Weatherization Work: June 2010- February 2011, Jonathan Wilson, The National Center for Healthy Housing; Ellen Tohn, Tohn Environmental Strategies, National Renewable Energy Laboratory and US Department of Energy, NREL/SR-7A20-49947, 2011.
- *Healthy and Safe Homes: Research, Practice, and Policy,* K. Mack, R. Morley, **E. Tohn** et al, American Public Health Association, ISBN # 978-0-87553-197-7, 2010.
- Healthy Energy-Efficient Housing: Using a One-Touch Approach to Maximize Public Health, Energy, and Housing Programs and Policies, Kate Kuholski, **Ellen Tohn**, Rebecca Morley, Journal of Public Health Management Practice, 16(5) E-Supp, S68–S74, 2010.
- Comparing Green Building Guidelines and Healthy Homes Principles: A Preliminary Investigation, The National Center for Healthy Housing, www.centerforhealthyhousing.org, 2008 & 2006.
- Lawyers and Doctors Partnering for Healthy Housing, M. Cherayil, D. Oliveira, M. Sandel, **E. Tohn**, Clearinghouse Review, Volume 35, Numbers 1-2, 2005.
- Building and Maintaining Healthier Housing, Northeast Sun, Fall 2004.
- An Evaluation of One-Time Professional Dust Removal in Homes with Deteriorated Lead-Based Paint & Lead Dust Hazards, E. Tohn, S. Dixon, et. al. Applied Occupational and Environmental Hygiene, Volume 18(2): 138-143, 2003.
- Designing Asthma Friendly Housing, Ellen R. Tohn, Journal of Light Construction, 2002.
- The Effect of Lead Hazard Controls on Children's Blood Lead Concentrations: A Systematic Review, Erin Haynes, Bruce Lanphear, Ellen R. Tohn, et. al., Environmental Health Perspectives, 110:1, 2002.

# **Presentations and Trainings**

Senior Advisor and trainer to Federally funded Healthy Housing training.

Over 175 conference presentations and training on environmental health topics. Trained over 8,000 individuals.

### **Education**

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (MIT), Masters of City Planning 1986

Concentration: Environmental policy and dispute resolution.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY, Bachelor of Arts 1981

Major: Economics and Government. Dean's List. Andrew W. Mellon grant recipient.

## **Volunteer Experience**

Cornell University Outdoor Education Advisory Board Co-Chair; Cornell University Council; Wayland, MA Energy Committee