



# Neville Island Bucket Brigade: 2002 Report Summary



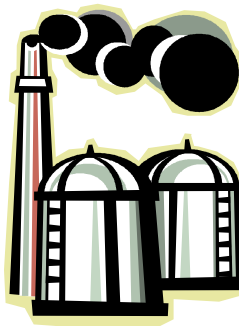
→ In 2002, the Bucket Brigade took 7 air samples from Avalon, Ben Avon, Neville Township, and Robinson Township.

→ The samples detected 51 volatile organic compounds (VOCs), sulfur compounds, and other chemical compounds:

- \* 4 chemicals are carcinogens
- \* 6 can cause birth defects or reproductive or developmental disorders
- \* 17 are respiratory irritants
- \* 28 have neurotoxic effects

→ Nine of the chemical compounds (see box at right) were detected several times at levels well above the EPA Region 3 Risk-Based Concentration, a level developed to assist EPA staff in risk assessments. It is based on best available health effects studies (EPA IRIS database is major source).

→ In response to numerous requests to ACHD, they have begun to take air samples in Avalon and Stowe Twp. that test for the presence of several toxic chemicals.



## Acrylonitrile

- used in the plastics industry
- no facilities on Neville Island are permitted to emit this carcinogen

## Benzene

- emitted by multiple companies on Neville Island and cars
- causes cancer and reproductive or developmental disorders

## Dicyclopentadiene

- chemical with strong odor that is detectable even at low levels
- respiratory irritant that also causes headaches and dizziness

## Ethylbenzene, Methylene

### Chloride, and 1,2,4- Trimethylbenzene

- widely-used industrial solvents
- cause headaches, dizziness, and respiratory irritation
- methylene chloride is a carcinogen

## Sulfur Compounds

- carbon disulfide, carbonyl sulfide, hydrogen sulfide, and others are by-products emitted from coke-ovens

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**and the Neville Island Good Neighbor Committee**

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