

Talking Trash for Neumann Earth Day

April 13th, 2021



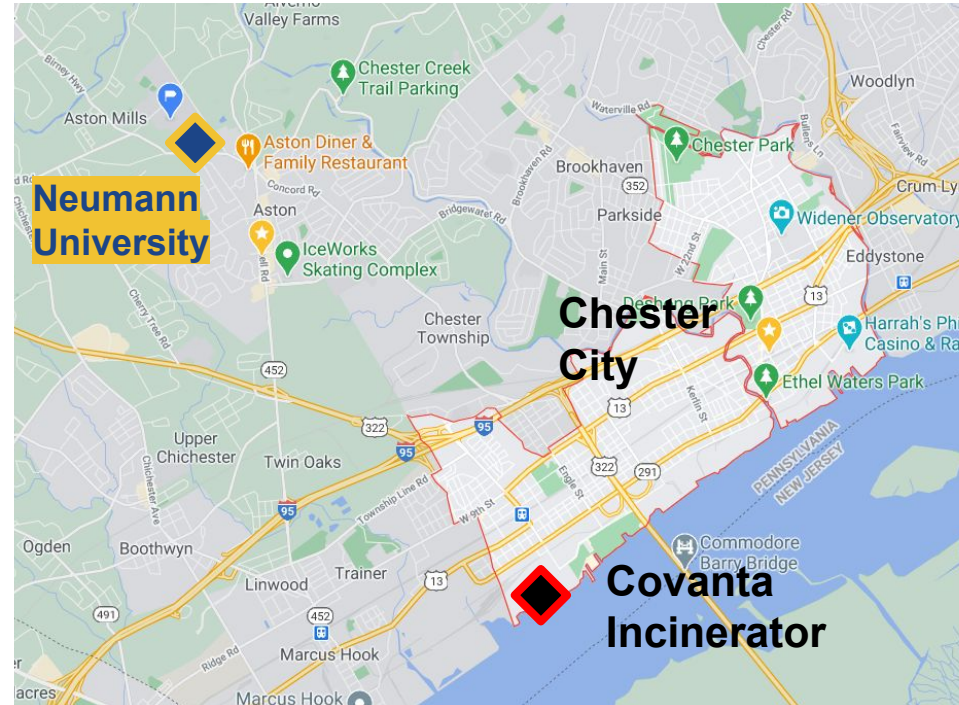
Did You Know?



The largest trash incinerator in the U.S. is located in Chester, PA!

6.1 square miles - 34,000 residents, and is also home to a sewage treatment plant and sewage sludge incinerator, chemical manufacturing plants, a paper mill, and other polluting industries.

Over a century of systemic racism and political corruption has transformed the historic waterfront city on the Delaware River into a regional toxic waste hub and **ONE OF THE WORST CASES OF ENVIRONMENTAL RACISM IN THE U.S.**





How Far Away is the Incinerator?



<http://bit.ly/NeumannED1>

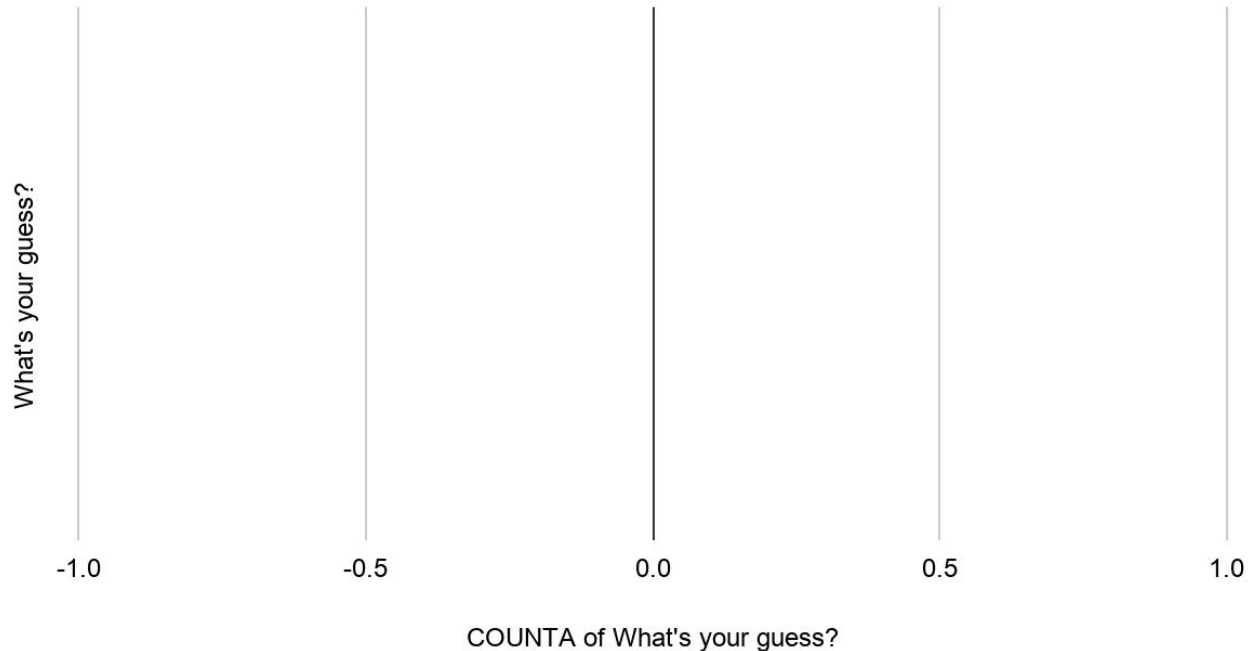
Some Fast Facts While You Fill Out The Survey

1. Particles from an incinerator can travel miles from the stacks, depending on particulate size and winds.
2. There are nearly 20 significant pollutants in and near the Chester waterfront.
3. Roughly 35,000 people live within 1-2 miles of the incinerator.
4. Chester's childhood asthma hospitalization rate is 3 times the Pennsylvania average.



Let's See What You Guessed

COUNTA of What's your guess? vs. What's your guess?



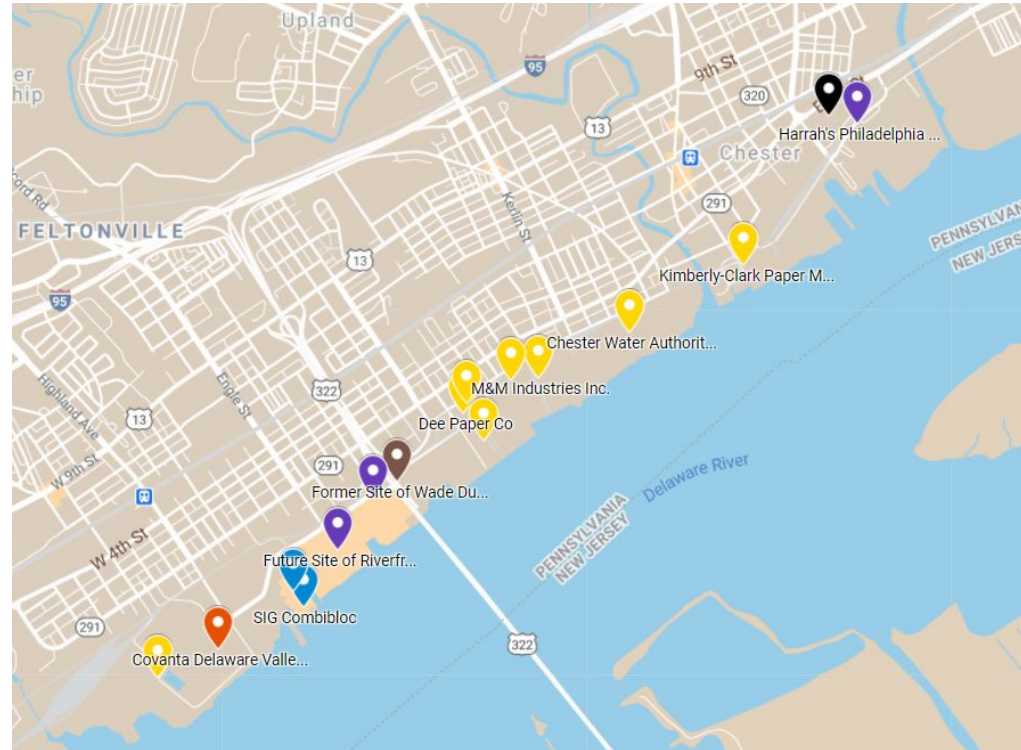
Did You Guess Right?



Waste Producers Along Chester Waterfront



Nearly 20
significant
polluters along
the Delaware
River in or near
Chester, PA





The Why of Incinerator Location

Larger perspectives - environmental racism, zero waste, plastics, corporate messaging, fact-checking

Why is Covanta in Chester? Which communities are most affected?

Where are they typically located?

Why are these populations affected?

Incinerators and toxic companies target low-income areas and communities of color because they are seen as the path of least resistance.

Polluting industries have led to devastating consequences on community health and quality of life for majority low-income black and brown communities like Chester.



Student Perspectives (Sophia)

Help with institutional change

What can students do day-to-day? At Neumann? In the community?

Waste reduction? Food and packaging choices? Avoiding unnecessary transportation (local foods, clothing, etc.)?

Research Projects

Community Engagement

Student perspectives - engagement personally, university-level, community involvement, career interests

Change perspective: Establishing direction now → For future generations of students (example: restarting the environmental club)



Let's Act to End Our Trash Addiction

How can we all be a part of reducing waste and pollution?

Answer: A Zero Waste (ZW) System

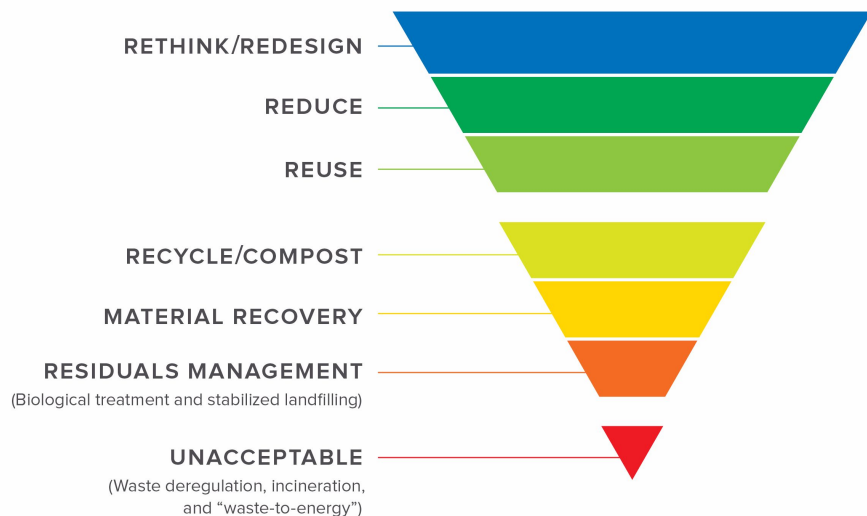
Does two things: Redesigns our systems and resource use AND captures discards and uses discards to make new products.

ZW is the logical and sustainable solution to address our waste crisis.

ZW is already adopted by many communities in the U.S with great success.

The sooner we act, the sooner we reduce the air pollution and health hazards.

THE ZERO WASTE HIERARCHY





What Can You Do to Reach Zero Waste?

Rally for the adoption of Zero Waste Resolutions

Join your local Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC)

Learn more & join the CRCQL team at www.chesterresidents.org

All plastics are NOT recyclable. Know which is which.

Trash in recycling bins causes contamination of the recycling stream.

Get more info at: <https://www.chesterresidents.org/zerowaste>

TIPS & TRICKS FOR PLASTIC RECYCLING

- ✓ Keep lids on bottles or toss them in the trash — they're too small to recycle by themselves
- ✓ Rinse and dry all food and drink containers
- ✓ Detergent containers are fine, just be sure they're free of soapy residue
- ✗ No plastic bags — check with your local grocery store for alternative recycling options
- ✗ No plastic wrappers from food or packaging
- ✗ No bubble wrap, packing peanuts, or foam packaging



Source: Republic Services

Let's Avoid "WishCycling" - Tossing stuff into the recycle bin because we WISH it could be recycled



Avoid single use plastic wherever possible.

Wash food waste and chemicals from plastics.

NO OILY PIZZA BOXES!



Discussion

What can we all do to affect the situation at Covanta?

Do you know where your and Neumann's trash goes?

What would they like to see on campus?

Recycling education?

Moving days!

Sporting events!

Do you know what plastics your town recycles?

(Hint: They may not have it right, so check with the recycler themselves.)

Trash Can Labels

**THIS
TRASH
BURNED IN
CHESTER**



Resources!

- CRCQL Facebook: www.facebook.com/ChesterEnvironmentalJustice
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/energyjustice (parent group)
- Incineration info: www.energyjustice.net/incineration
- Chester blog: www.ejnet.org/chester/
- [Shelbizlee on YouTube](#)

SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 2021 -- 11 AM EDT – 2 PM EDT

Environmental Justice Day!

Chester City Hall



Even More Resources!

- Active BAN THE BURN petition: Delaware County & organizations: www.chesterresidents.org/delcosign
- Boycott Ocean City, MD: www.boycottoceancitymd.com/petition
- Zero Waste Team - Mondays at 6pm
- General Meetings for CRCQL & Supporters - Thursdays at 7pm (every other Thursday; next meeting 4/15) www.chesterresidents.org/meeting
- Calendar for local, county and state government, and other meetings: www.chesterresidents.org/calendar
- Excellent 3/21 [DelCo Times article](#) covering our petitioning in Chester
- ["DISRUPT & DISMANTLE" docuseries](#) on Shingle Mountain in Texas with Soledad O'Brien.
- [Fundraising Page for CRCQL](#)

Home Recycling Guide

CLEAN Type 1 & 2 Plastics
(Unless your town allows more)

CLEAN Metal & Glass

Clean news or printer/copier paper (not mixes or shiny, plastic-coated papers & watch out for junk mail, it's a mess)

No Bottle Caps, Utensils, or Other Small Pieces of Plastic

