

High-quality, low-cost air monitors can have a major impact on allowing community members to address air pollution in their neighborhoods.



THANK YOU FOR DONATING IN THE PAST.
CAN YOU DONATE AGAIN TO HELP POLLUTED COMMUNITIES?

Dear <<Informal>>,

Poor air quality affects everyone and harms public health. Air quality can change dramatically block to block, and while there is information about regional air quality, it is difficult to learn about how clean the air is in our neighborhood. This is particularly true of Black and Brown communities that are most often forced to host polluting industries and live near major highways.

In 2017, the Council implemented a Community Air Monitoring Program to educate the most affected residents in Chinatown and Kensington in Philadelphia. Council staff work with affected residents to install small air quality monitors that measure particulate matter pollution at the neighborhood level. Particulate matter pollution is harmful because it can be directly embedded in an individual's respiratory system causing inflammation and other health issues. The smaller the particulates, the more dangerous they are.

Council staff teach residents how to use the monitors to read air quality data in real time. Once residents have the data showing pollution levels in their neighborhood, they are empowered to address the issue by working with the Council to make air quality complaints to local agencies and to ask their elected officials to take action.

YOU CAN HELP.
It costs the Council \$500 to purchase one air monitor, install it and train community residents on how to use it. Can you donate again to help the Council continue and expand its Community Air Monitoring Program? Any donation you make is greatly appreciated and will help empower someone suffering from air pollution.

The Council's Community Air Monitoring Program has helped community residents better identify sources of pollution and other environmental threats they want addressed.

The Council needs your support to expand the air monitoring program to more residents in Philadelphia and its suburbs, Pittsburgh and Allegheny County, rural Pennsylvania where fracking operations are expanding and environmental justice communities in the state of Delaware. Unfortunately, the Council's funding to install air monitors is very limited.

YOU CAN HELP

Can you donate again to help the Council continue and expand its Community Air Monitoring Program? \$500 covers an air monitor, installation, and training to help community members in need.

DONATE TODAY



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2022
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Overburdened communities like those in Philadelphia and Southern Delaware County—Chester, Marcus Hook, Trainer and Upper and Lower Chichester bear the brunt of air pollution from refineries, incinerators and other industrial activity along the Delaware River—have historically been ignored by government and elected officials. Air monitors can help these communities gather the localized air quality data they need to fight back.

In addition to particulate matter monitors, the Council began offering monitors for volatile organic compound (VOC) pollution to help residents living near fracking operations and other fossil fuel facilities, like compressors stations and petrochemical hubs, monitor their local air quality. The Council is dedicated to using its Community Air Pollution Program to help residents in rural Pennsylvania use this emerging, innovative technology to protect and improve public health.

WHY AIR MONITORS?

As a tool that empowers communities, air monitors help get residents involved in environmental issues impacting their neighborhood’s health and quality of life. The more residents that speak out about poor air quality and high levels of particulate matter—a mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets including dust, dirt, soot, or smoke—the more likely community members will force government agencies and elected officials to listen and act on community concerns.

HOW ARE RESIDENTS USING AIR MONITORS?

Real-time air quality information is extremely useful in educating neighbors and working locally to become more active in addressing pollution and quality of life issues in the neighborhood. Community members are better educated on pollution that is impacting their health and quality of life and, therefore, much more likely to make reports to government agencies, elected officials and the media.

As a Council Advocate, I have trained more than 20 residents to use air monitors in the region. Can you donate to help get an air monitor in the hands of a resident in need?

Thank you,

Russell Zerbo
Clean Air Council Advocate

P.S. Any gift you give today will be matched by a generous Council major donor up to the first \$3,000. DOUBLE YOUR GIFT!

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135 SOUTH 19TH ST.
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