

Rubbertown Community Advisory Council

A Partnership

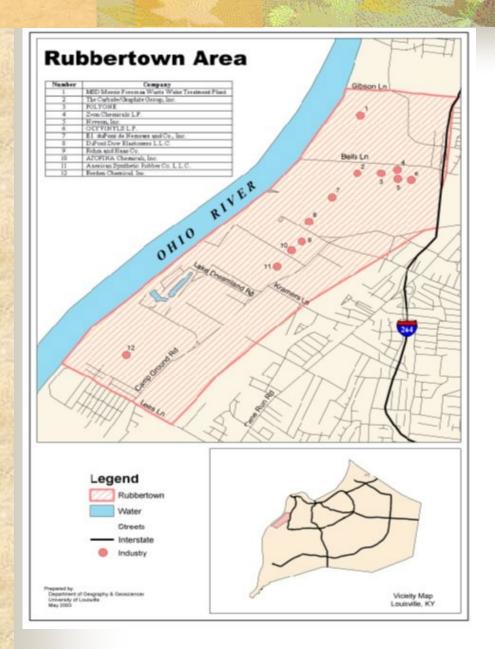


Prepared in collaboration with the University of Louisville, School of Public Health Depts.

Epidemiology and Clinical Investigation Sciences and Occupational and Environmental Health

What is the Rubbertown Community Advisory Council (RCAC)?

- Where/what is Rubbertown?
- What does the RCAC do?
- Is the RCAC successful?



Rubbertown is located along the Ohio River in western Jefferson County. The 11 chemical companies produce rubber, plastics, coatings, and other chemical products used to make cars, paint, appliances, packaging, and even space shuttle fuel.

Rubbertown: Important to Louisville and Surrounding Areas

- 3,100 employees
- Affects 7,043 other jobs in metro area
- Average salary \$50,000 (\$155 million total payroll)
- \$50 million in local purchases annually
- \$33 million paid in taxes in Kentucky and Indiana

Rubbertown Community Advisory Council

- Began in 1991
- Was driven by the American Chemical Council's Responsible Care program
- Provides a forum for discussions concerning safety, health, and environment
- Is led by community members and funded by Rubbertown companies
- Is supported by a facilitator: Charlie Hunton
- Today there are 25 community members and 12 participating companies

RCAC Vision

The vision of the RCAC is to develop mutual trust between participating chemical companies and the surrounding community, and to improve the overall well being of the area.

RCAC Mission

■ The mission of the RCAC is to provide two-way communication on community and industry concerns.

RCAC Members

Community

Neighbors

Interested citizens

Metro Police

Cane Run Area Neighborhood Place

Metro Air Pollution Control District

Park Duvalle Comm Health Center

Riverfields

High school students

Metro Health Department

University of Louisville

Company

American Synthetic Rubber Co.

ATOFINA Chemicals Inc.

Borden Chemical Inc.

Carbide Industries, LLC

DuPont Dow Elastomers LLC

E.I. Du Pont de Nemours and Co.

Metropolitan Sewer District

Noveon Inc.

Oxy Vinyls, LP

PolyOne Corporation

Rohm & Haas Company

Zeon Chemicals LP

Cooperation Through Communication

- Members share their concerns about industry and the community.
- Companies share information about safety and health efforts as well as environmental or emergency actions.



Understanding Through Education

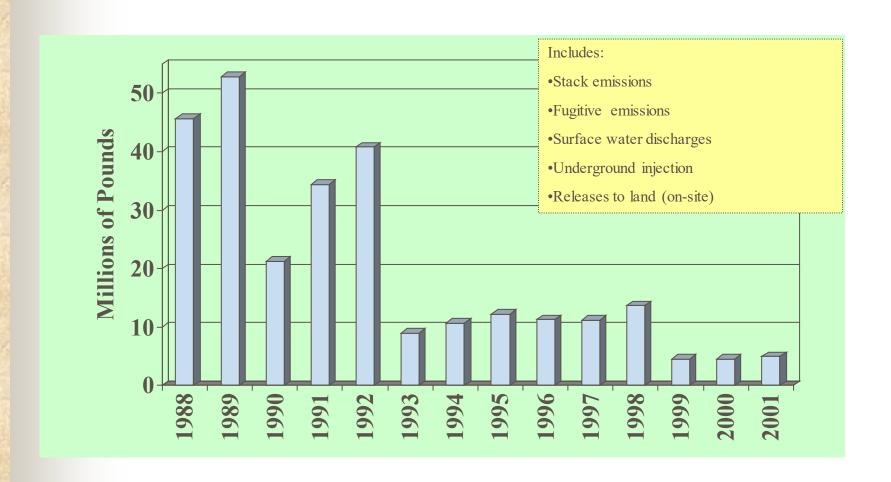
- We look for opportunities to teach the community about important concepts like "Shelter In Place."
- Enviro-safety fairs
 educate the public about
 the industries' efforts in
 safety and environmental
 initiatives.



Examples of Specific Meeting Topics

- Air Toxics Study
- Emissions reduction plans
- Emergency response procedures
- Security at the plants
- Sub-committee reports on activities
- Cancer studies in Jefferson County
- Transportation of hazardous materials
- Toxic Release Inventories

Rubbertown Toxic Release Inventories



Is the RCAC Successful?

- Through open and honest communication, companies have reduced spills and accidents (Plant manager: "I don't want to have to stand in front of the RCAC and tell them that we messed up.")
- Encourages companies to reduce emissions beyond what is required by law
- Delivers shelter in place and other safety information to plant neighborhoods
- Puts a human face on the plants and helps plant managers better understand community concerns and needs
- Acts as a sounding board for Rubbertown plants and community residents

To join or for information about RCAC

- Contact Charlie Hunton, facilitator
 - **(502)** 762-1731
 - CGHunton@aol.com
- RCAC meets monthly, second Thursday of the month, 5:30 8 p.m.; locations vary