

Transcending the Movement

The Case for Change
Presented by Donele Wilkins



Mission Statement

- Established in 1994-Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice is a not for profit 501c3, organization-formed to empower people of color and low income residents to educate, advocate, and organize for cleaner, healthier communities and environments.

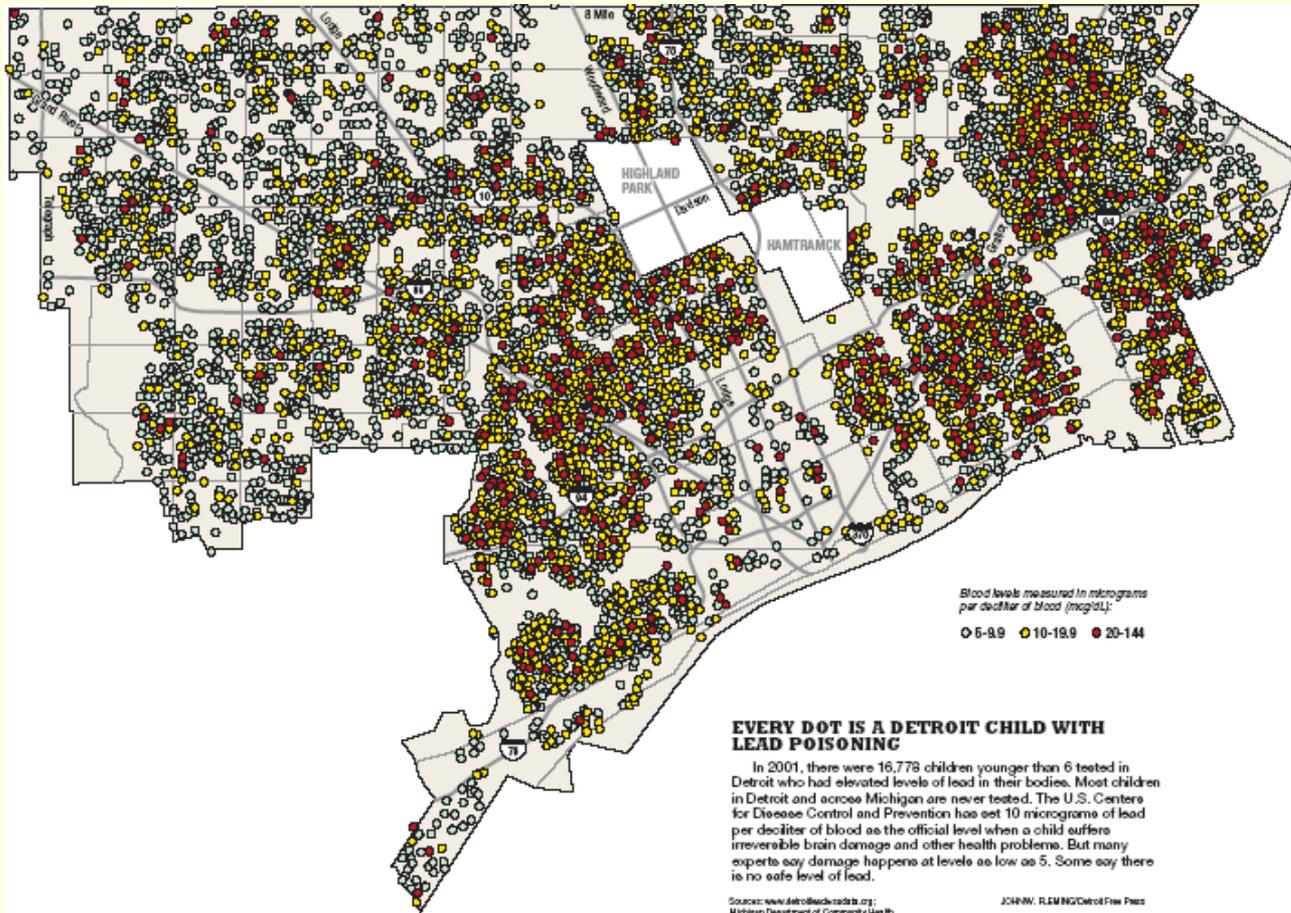
A History of Advocacy

- Incinerator Closures
- Advocating for Policy Change
- Promoting Civic Engagement
- Seeking Fair Treatment
- Ending Environmental Racism



Taking A Stand for the Land in the Hood

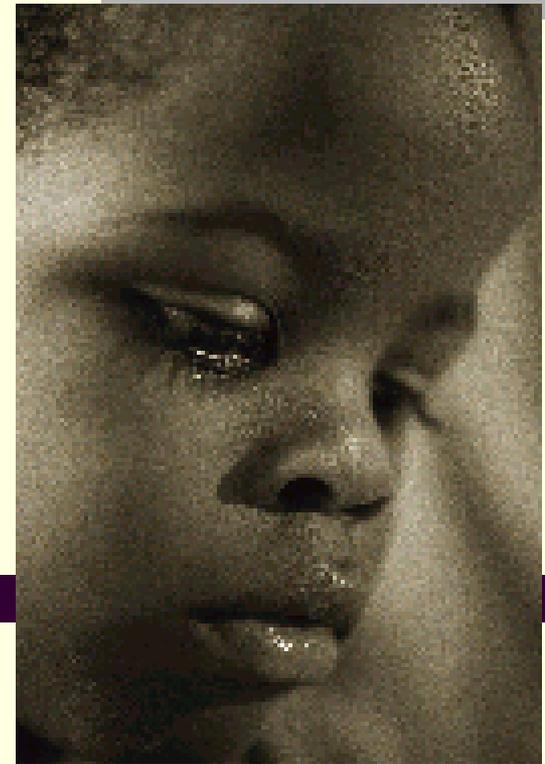




The Truth about African American Health and Pollution

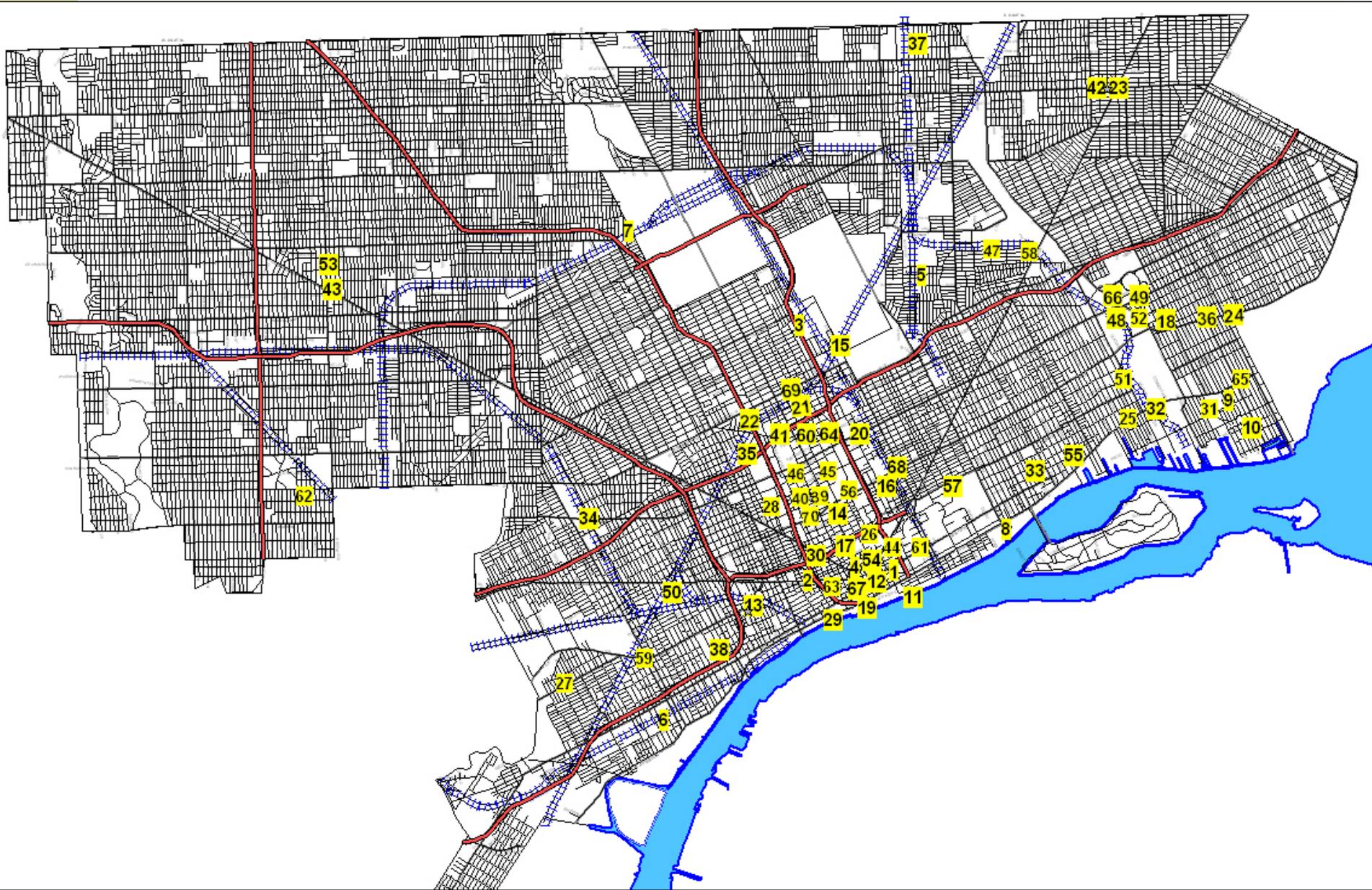
LEAD FACTS IN BLACK AND WHITE AND GREEN

LEAD Poisoning is Preventable



About 22% of African American children living in pre-1946 housing are lead poisoned, compared with 6% of White children.

DBRA Brownfield Projects



First, what is a brownfield?

The Environmental Protection Agency defines brownfields as "abandoned, idled, or underused industrial and/or commercial facilities where further expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination."

In other words, picture a brownfield as a vacant lot or facility that is suspected of being polluted. People avoid investing in it, because they might become involved in messy problems, even legal ones, concerning clean-up.

Industry in Neighborhoods

Nestled in neighborhoods are small and medium-sized manufacturing facilities, which potentially can bring environmental exposures to children and may negatively effect neighborhood quality of life.



School next to Continental Aluminum



Church surrounded by factories

JUST SO U CAN KNOW!!!

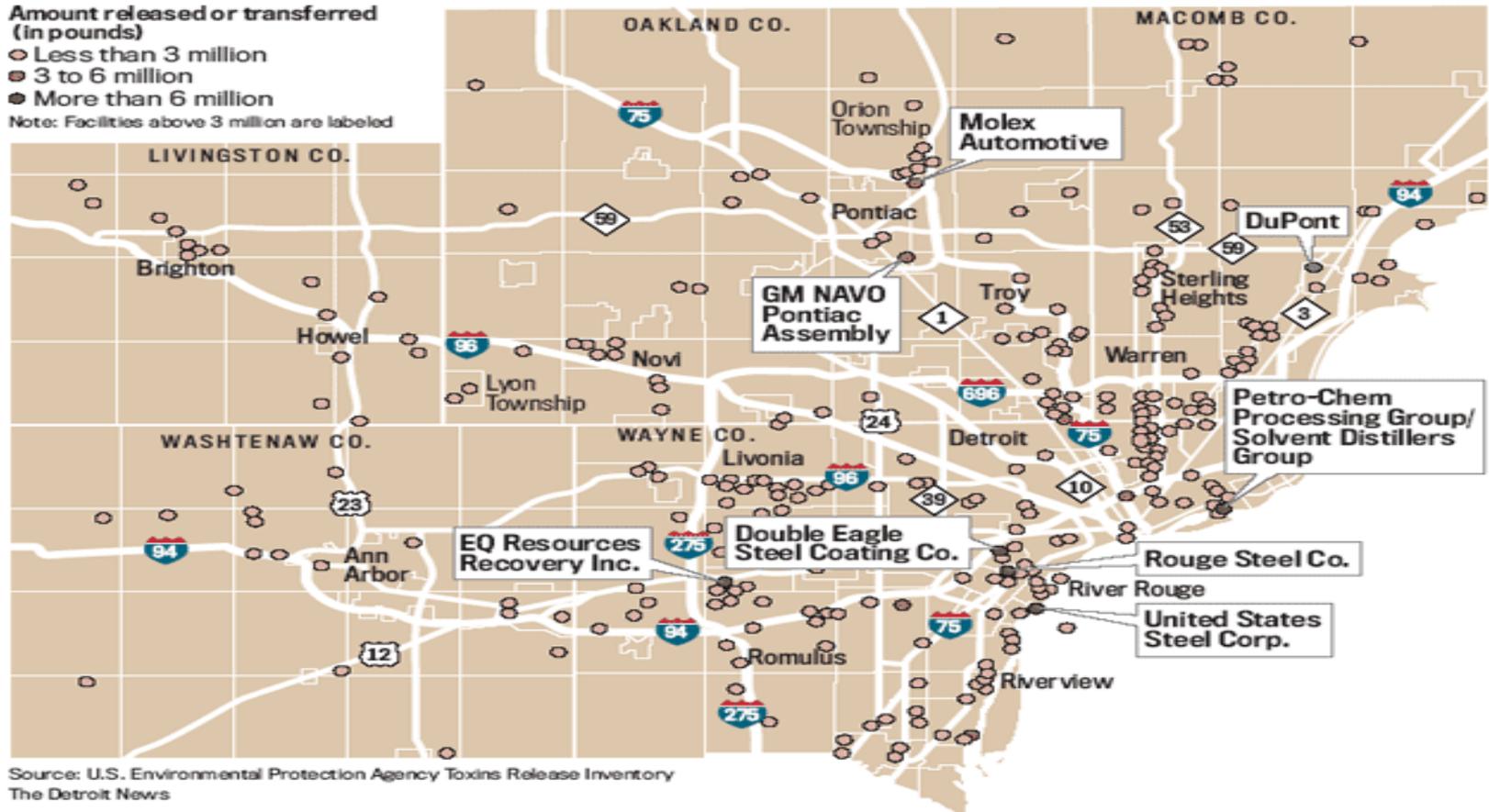
Toxins in Metro Detroit

Almost 300 industrial facilities in Metro Detroit reported releases or transfers of toxic chemicals in 2003. The releases include air and water pollution, as well as waste that was transferred to other facilities for recycling or disposal. Facilities with the highest discharges included hazardous waste plants, power plants and steel mills.

Amount released or transferred (in pounds)

- Less than 3 million
- 3 to 6 million
- More than 6 million

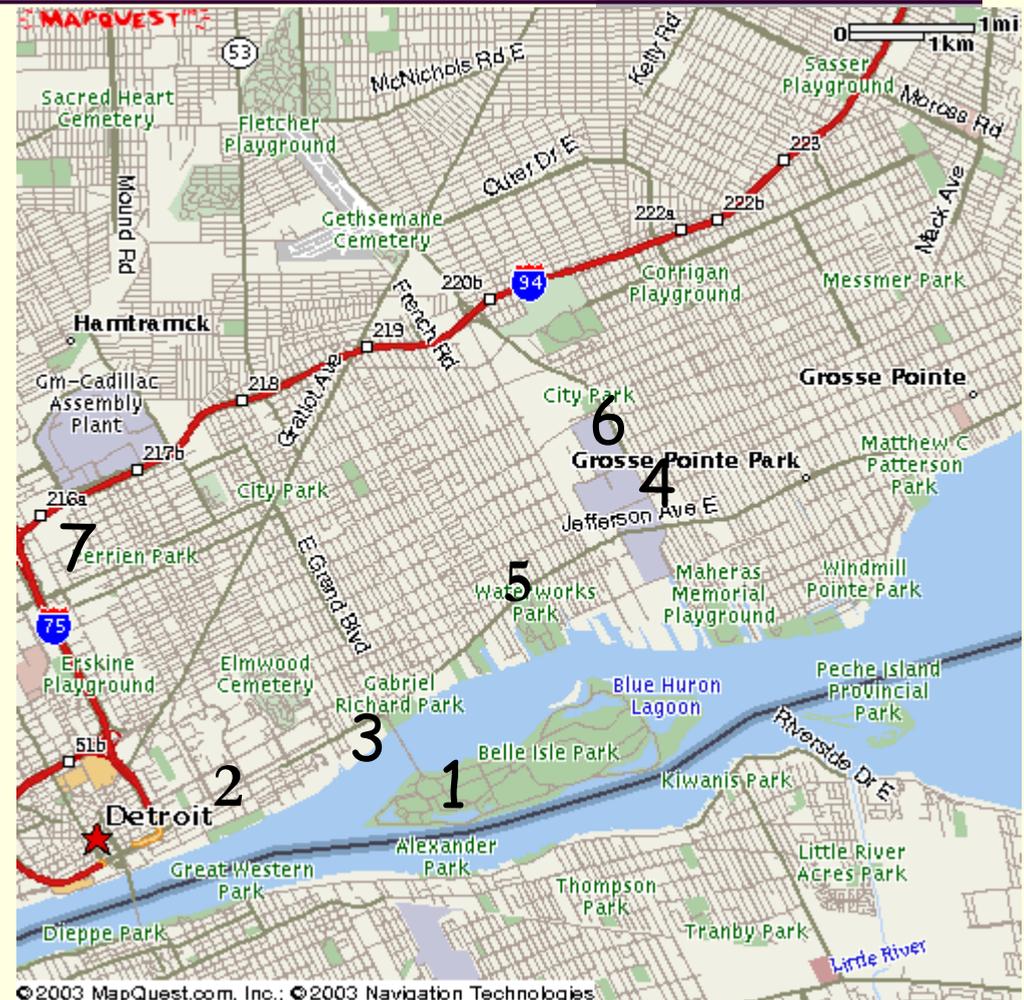
Note: Facilities above 3 million are labeled



Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Toxins Release Inventory
The Detroit News

Eastside Detroit Toxic Tour

1. Old Uniroyal Site
2. Continental Aluminum
3. Jefferson North Assembly Plant
4. Detroit Municipal Waste Incinerator
5. Petro Chem processing group



Central Detroit 48211

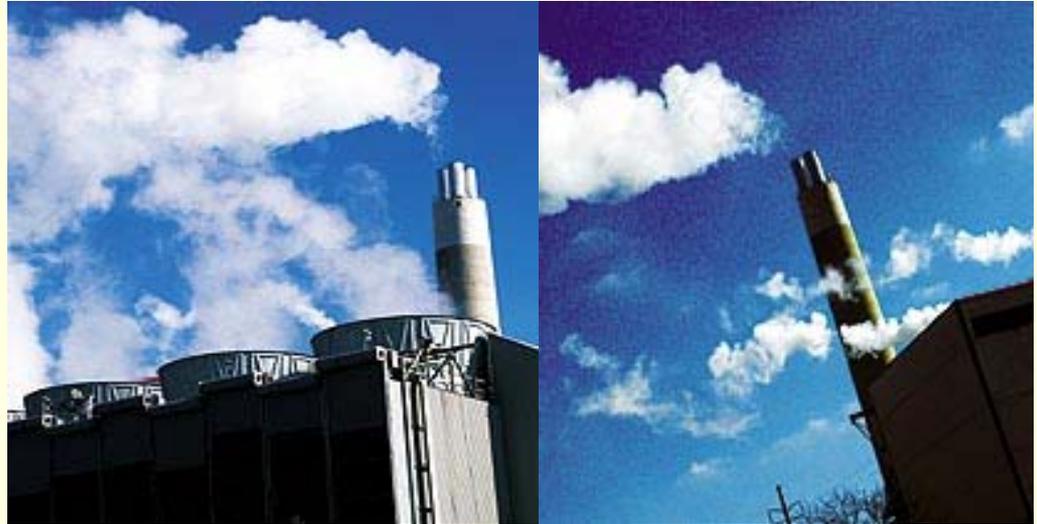
(Detroit's Incinerator known as Detroit Municipal Recovery Authority)

Location: 5700 Russell St.

Current Use: Active

Issue: Air Pollution

According to the Ecology Center the incinerator generates 3,600,000 pounds per year of toxic metals, acid gases, and other hazardous emissions like lead ,mercury and dioxin.



East Detroit 48214

(Petro-Chem Processing Plant)

- On August 29, 2006
Petro Chem had an explosion that sent people in the neighboring communities out of their homes.



East Detroit 48215

(Continental Aluminum)

■ **Location:** 1610 Algonquin Street

■ **Current Use:** Not being used

■ **Issue:** Lead Contamination .

Industry has abandoned this lead contaminated site. Fences surrounding the site appear to be adequate to keep kids out. Local neighborhoods have high lead levels.



Master Metals Site (Detroit, MI) Lead Abatement Procedure



Occupational workers –abatement of an old lead smelter (Master Metals site) E. Nevada Rd. Detroit, MI

Southwest Detroit 48209

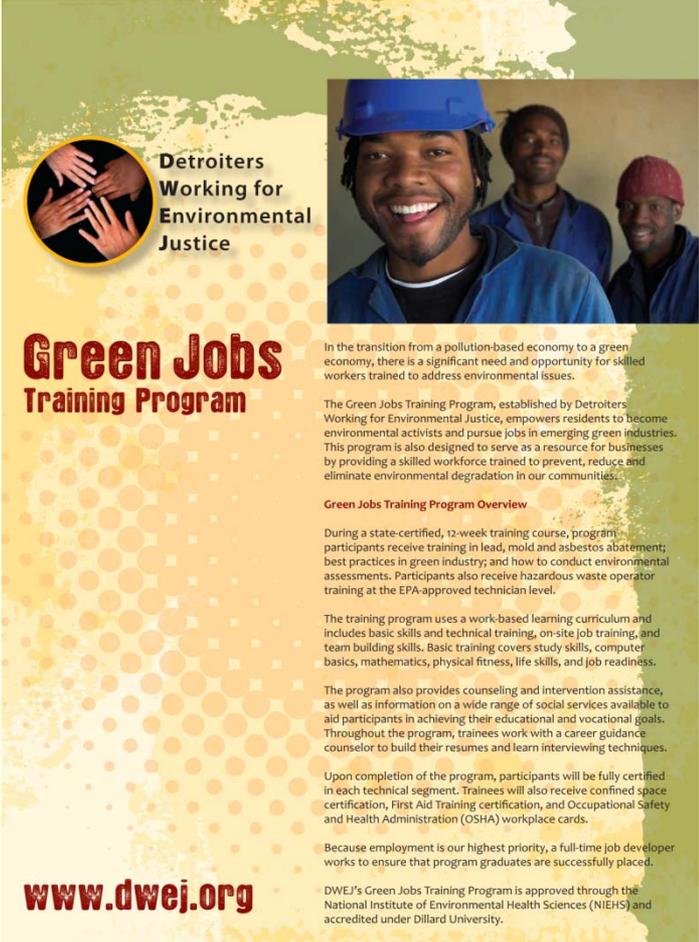
(~~New Beard Elementary also known as Roberto Clemente~~)

- **Location:** 1551 Beard at Chatfield
- **Current Use:** Active
- **Issue:** Environmental Contamination this elementary school was built on a former industrial site contaminated with arsenic, lead, polychlorinated biphenyls(PCBs), tetrachloroethylene and benzo(a) pyrene.
- A soil cap (barrier separates the school from the contaminated land but a proposed “truck only road” for the Dift could cause the barrier to crack or break.



Opportunity

- Define A New Vision
- Equip Community to Engage
- Leverage Resources
- Provide Job Training
- Create Jobs
- Revitalize, Revitalize, Revitalize
- Share the Wealth



The flyer features a background of green and yellow splatters. In the top left, there is a circular logo with hands reaching towards the center, accompanied by the text "Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice". To the right of this is a photograph of three men in blue work shirts and hard hats (one blue, one red). Below the logo and photo, the title "Green Jobs Training Program" is written in a bold, red, sans-serif font. The bottom left corner contains the website address "www.dwej.org" in a bold, red font. The right side of the flyer contains several paragraphs of text providing details about the program's goals, curriculum, and certification.

Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice

Green Jobs Training Program

www.dwej.org

In the transition from a pollution-based economy to a green economy, there is a significant need and opportunity for skilled workers trained to address environmental issues.

The Green Jobs Training Program, established by Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice, empowers residents to become environmental activists and pursue jobs in emerging green industries. This program is also designed to serve as a resource for businesses by providing a skilled workforce trained to prevent, reduce and eliminate environmental degradation in our communities.

Green Jobs Training Program Overview

During a state-certified, 12-week training course, program participants receive training in lead, mold and asbestos abatement; best practices in green industry; and how to conduct environmental assessments. Participants also receive hazardous waste operator training at the EPA-approved technician level.

The training program uses a work-based learning curriculum and includes basic skills and technical training, on-site job training, and team building skills. Basic training covers study skills, computer basics, mathematics, physical fitness, life skills, and job readiness.

The program also provides counseling and intervention assistance, as well as information on a wide range of social services available to aid participants in achieving their educational and vocational goals. Throughout the program, trainees work with a career guidance counselor to build their resumes and learn interviewing techniques.

Upon completion of the program, participants will be fully certified in each technical segment. Trainees will also receive confined space certification, First Aid Training certification, and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) workplace cards.

Because employment is our highest priority, a full-time job developer works to ensure that program graduates are successfully placed.

DWEJ's Green Jobs Training Program is approved through the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and accredited under Dillard University.

Green jobs specialization courses

- Energy Audits
- Deconstruction
- Sustainable Landscaping
- Geothermal Training
- Computer Aided Design(CAD)



Community Hazard Awareness Training Seminars

Many serious hazards lurk unnoticed in our homes, offices, playgrounds and neighborhoods. To raise awareness and educate citizens about these unseen hazards, Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice hold Community Hazard Awareness Training Seminars (CHATS) where Detroiters learn how to create safe and healthy environments in their homes and communities.

Through a series of training modules, participants learn:

- How to identify and address the presence of lead in the home and in the neighborhood
- Strategies to control asthma attacks
- How to recognize and respond to discriminatory problems in environmental health and safety

At the conclusion of the seminar, residents receive the necessary tools and resources to address common environmental health hazards.

To learn more about CHATS, or to register for an upcoming seminar visit www.dwej.org or call 313-833-3935.

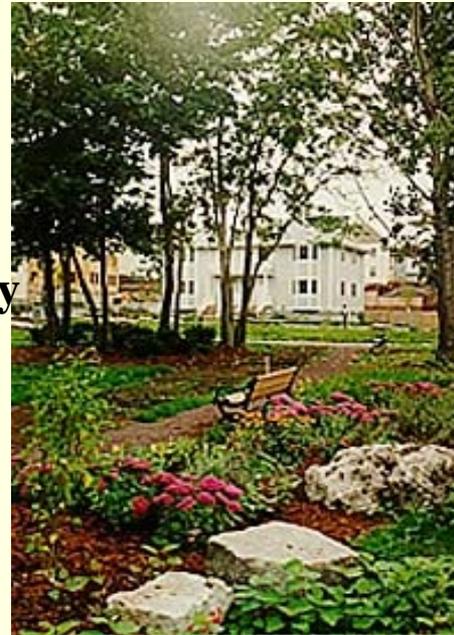
Make your home and neighborhood safe.



www.dwej.org

Sustainable Development

**Towards A Sustainable America
Advancing Prosperity, Opportunity
And A Healthy Environment for
The 21st Century
1999
Presidents Council on Sustainable
Development**



Solutions

- Promote Civic Engagement
- Educate Policy Makers & Public Health
- Multi-Disciplinary Collaboration
- Encourage & Invest in Sustainable Development
- Advocate for Equal Environmental Protection

Partners

- Business
- Community
- Advocates
- Policymakers
- Philanthropy
- Academia
- Employers
- Government





Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice

- For more information on DWEJ visit their website www.dwej.org
- Or contact the organization at
 - info@dwej.org
 - (313) 833-DWEJ(3935)