The Bucket Brigade



Organizing a Community Campaign

Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League

Where Does Air Pollution Come From?

Industrial pollutants are emitted by:

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chemical plants
dry cleaners
asphalt plants
paper mills
incinerators
refineries, etc.
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Why a Bucket Brigade?

 Bucket Brigades train teams of community volunteers to seek out and eliminate local sources of poisonous air emissions.

The Bucket Brigade Program

- The Bucket Brigade allows residents living near emission sources to take samples whenever pollution occurs, even at night or on weekends when state agencies typically cannot respond.
- The Bucket Brigade gives citizens' groups a tool to check out the air wherever you live.
- It's like an environmental community watch program.

What is the Bucket?

- The Bucket is our patented device for capturing a sample of air for laboratory analysis in three minutes.
- The EPA-approved grab sampling Bucket is a reliable yet economical way to measure air pollution.

The Bucket and Tedlar Sample Bag



What Does It Measure?

• 101 air pollutants are detected by the device including:

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dichloromethane
hydrogen sulfide
perchloroethylene
vinyl chloride
toluene
benzene
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The Method

- 1-Residents living near air pollution sources form a neighborhood team.
- 2-Residents do neighborhood surveillance, record information about wind direction and odors.
- 3-Residents learn to operate the patented Bucket sampling equipment.
- 4-Residents take a sample of toxic air pollution.
- 5-Residents send the sample to an EPA-certified laboratory.
- 6-Lab does tests and sends results to residents and BREDL.
- 7-BREDL sends results to expert for study.
- 8-Residents release results.

Four Tools of Gathering Evidence

- 1 Log Book
 Residents write down what they see, hear, and smell.
- 2 Complaint to public officials
 A written request for action by state officials.
- 3 Camera
 Pictures or video which are evidence of what happened.
- 4 Bucket air sampling device
 A method of collecting a sample of air for laboratory testing.

Always keep copies of all your evidence in a safe place!

The Price Tag

- Equipment costs \$250 each
 The bucket can be re-used many, many times if properly cared for.
- Laboratory from \$200-\$450 each Depending on the number of toxic compounds analyzed.
- Overnight shipping \$15. To send the sample to the lab.
- A biannual calibration test costs about \$400.
 To check on the accuracy of the equipment
- To reduce costs gather as much information as possible before taking your first sample.

Log Book



Odor Log Book

A system for recording information about noxious odors from industrial facilities.

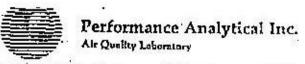
BlocBridge Environmental Definic League Information pathered on this form will help determine where and when testing of air samples should this plant.

IMPORTANT:

Please fell out compleady. This information necessary for us locate there you are in relation to the source of pollution.

Your Name:		
Your Address:	r physical er 911 address, ne	i a PO bex.
City	State _	Zip

DATE month/dayyear	TIME AMORPM®	WHAT DID YOU EXPERIENCE? Any smells? health effects? smoke? sousces?								
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20954 (Scheme Street Caroga Park, California 91301 Phone 616 709-1139 Fax 818 709-2915

Chain of Custody Record Analytical Services Request

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Young pollution sleuths and community activists fight for healthier air.



One person speaking alone may not be heard, but many people speaking with one voice cannot be ignored.

Janet Marsh, May 1984



The Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League

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