

Who are the largest industrial air polluters in the Philadelphia area?

Rank	Facility	Facility Type	Oil refining capacity (barrels/day)	Trash burning capacity (tons/day)	Electric generating capacity (Megawatts)	Notes
1	Philadelphia Energy Solutions	Oil refinery	355,000			Largest on east coast; 9 th in U.S.
2	Covanta Delaware Valley	Trash incinerator		3,510	87	Largest in nation, in Chester, PA
3	Monroe Energy	Oil refinery	190,000			
4	Paulsboro Refining Company	Oil refinery	160,000			
5	Kimberly Clark Tissue Corporation	Paper mill			67	Burns waste coal & petroleum coke (oil refinery waste)
6	Wheelabrator Falls	Trash incinerator		1,500	53	
7	Logan Generating Plant	Coal power plant			242	
8	Covanta Plymouth Renewable Energy	Trash incinerator		1,216	32	
9	Camden County Energy Recovery Associates	Trash incinerator		1,050	34	
10	Wheelabrator Gloucester	Trash incinerator		500	14	



Philly area is the nation's 4th worst asthma capital ...and Philly has the highest cancer rate among the 10 largest cities in the U.S.

Closing these “big 10” industrial polluters in our area would be equivalent to taking 90% of the cars and trucks off of Philadelphia’s roads, in terms of the nitrogen oxide pollution that triggers asthma attacks.

What must we do?

1) Make sure that the PES oil refinery is not reopened

Support Philly Thrive and others advocating for an end to polluting industry on the refinery site, and a safe on-site cleanup.

- No continued oil refining. No biorefinery (biofuels are a polluting false solution). Clean energy jobs only.
- Clean up without further exposing the community or simply relocating toxic soil to a weaker community.

2) Stop Philly from burning trash

Support Energy Justice Network and our member groups in the impacted communities surrounding the city. Mayor Kenney and Philadelphia City Council ignored the emphatic call by 41 environmental, public health, social justice, and business organizations to end incineration – and in June, the city signed contracts to continue burning much of our waste for the next 4-7 years – primarily in nearby Chester City, home to the nation’s largest waste incinerator – and known as the worst case of environmental racism in the nation.

- These four are primarily responsible for the decision to keep burning Philly’s trash:
 - Scott McGrath (Philadelphia Streets Department contract writer)
 - Carlton Williams (Philadelphia Streets Department Commissioner)
 - Nic Esposito (Mayor’s “Zero Waste” and Litter Cabinet)
 - Christine Knapp (Mayor’s Director of Sustainability)
- Before the contract comes up for its first 1-year renewal option in 2023, we must replace these bureaucrats or get them properly informed of the fact that incineration is by far the most polluting way to manage our waste, and must be ended.



The childhood asthma hospitalization rate in Chester is three times the state average, and this incinerator contributes to high asthma rates in Philadelphia as well. Emitting many other toxic pollutants, it also contributes to heart attacks, strokes, cancers, learning disabilities, and many other health problems.

There is no need to burn trash. Between this incinerator and others in the state, Philadelphia burns nearly half of its trash. Trash incineration is the most expensive and polluting way to manage waste or to make energy. We can do better! We must end incineration and work toward a real Zero Waste approach that gets serious about reducing, reusing, recycling and composting discarded materials.

Learn more about the environmental injustices in Chester at www.ChesterResidents.org and follow “Chester Environmental Justice” and “Energy Justice Network” on Facebook. See www.energyjustice.net/pa/philly for more on Philly’s waste burning. Learn about the problems with incineration, and about zero waste alternatives at www.energyjustice.net/incineration

GET INVOLVED: Call Mike Ewall at 215-436-9511 or email mike@energyjustice.net.