

CLIMATE CRISIS, ENVIRONMENTAL  
ACTIVISM AND MENTAL HEALTH:  
FROM A NATIONAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

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## Climate change anxiety and mental health:

**Environmental activism as buffer** Sarah E. O. Schwartz<sup>1</sup> ·

Laelia Benoit<sup>2,3,4</sup> · Susan Clayton<sup>5</sup> · McKenna F. Parnes<sup>1</sup> · Lance Swenson<sup>1</sup> ·  
Sarah R. Lowe

Current Psychology (2023) 42:16708–16721

## Anxiety and Activism; Anxiety and activism in response

**to climate change** Susan Clayton and McKenna F. Parnes Current Opinion in

Psychology 2025, 62:101996

## Integrative resilience in action: Stories from the frontlines of climate change and the Covid-19

**pafndemic** Chiara Camponeschi. [www.frontiersin.org/journals/sustainable-cities/articles/10.3389/frsc.2022.933501](http://www.frontiersin.org/journals/sustainable-cities/articles/10.3389/frsc.2022.933501)



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Nations**

**Climate Action**

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# Causes and Effects of Climate Change

Fossil fuels – coal, oil and gas – are by far the largest contributor to global climate change, accounting for over 75 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions and nearly 90 per cent of all carbon dioxide emissions.

# WHAT THEY KNEW and When they knew it

1959 Edward Teller father of the hydrogen bomb spoke to industry leaders on global climate:

Burning fuels Putting c02 into the atmosphere

Creating a greenhouse gas affect

Melting ice caps

Flooding cities on the east coast

1965, 70's, 80's more of the same. industry leaders, "in their own words" well aware that burning fossil fuels was causing a potential climate catastrophe

**New Hampshire Bulletin**

STATE HOUSE HEALTH EDUCATION ENERGY + ENVIRONMENT COMMENTARY

**COMMENTARY**

## Commentary: What Big Oil knew about climate change, in its own words

 **BENJAMIN FRANTA**

OCTOBER 29, 2021 5:55 AM



DECADES OF DECEIT:  
*The Case Against  
Major Fossil Fuel  
Companies for  
Climate Fraud and  
Damages*  
Union of Concerned  
Scientists 2025



<https://doi.org/10.47923/2025.15837>

# Harvard Study data 2018: FF derived air pollution kills

## Fossil fuel air pollution responsible for 1 in 5 deaths worldwide

By Anna Miller - February 9, 2021



FALSE SOLUTIONS TO CLIMATE CRISIS:

**NUCLEAR ENERGY**

WASTE TO ENERGY INCINERATION

1) PROLIFERATIVE RISKS: Nuclear power provides the infrastructure, expertise and technology.

ENRICHING  
URANIUM 235  
starting <20% for NE  
to >90% for a bomb  
PLUTONIUM 239  
FROM REPROCESSED  
SPENT FUEL : <20 lb  
to make a bomb...



# Regulators fear dismissal if they slow Trump nuclear power plans

By Callie Patteson

September 3, 2025 12:53 p



# 7 REASONS WHY NUCLEAR ENERGY IS NOT THE SOLUTION TO THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Mark Z. Jacobson



FALSE ENERGY SOLUTIONS  
TO CLIMATE CRISIS:

NUCLEAR ENERGY

**WASTE TO ENERGY  
INCINERATION**

## Public Health Reports

▶ [Public Health Rep.](#) 1996 Jul-Aug;111(4):298-313.

### **Hospitals and plastics. Dioxin prevention and medical waste incinerators.**

[J Thornton](#)<sup>1</sup>, [M McCally](#)<sup>1</sup>, [P Orris](#)<sup>1</sup>, [J Weinberg](#)<sup>1</sup>

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PMCID: [PMC1381872](#) PMID: [8711095](#)

# CURTIS BAY MEDICAL WASTE INCINERATOR

Curtis Bay Energy, a medical waste incinerator in south Baltimore that is the largest of its kind in the country.



# Health Costs Maryland: pm2.5= \$22 million/yr Bresco

Respiratory Hospital Admissions ( 0.3)	\$10,800
Cardiovascular Hospital Admissions (0.4)	\$16,800
Acute Bronchitis (3)	\$1500
Acute Myocardial Infarction, Nonfatal (0.2)	\$29,000
Emergency Room Visits (2.4)	\$1000
Asthma Exacerbation Symptoms (59.5)	\$3400
Chronic Bronchitis (1,5)	420K
Work Days Lost	\$55 k
Mortality all causes 2.2	\$21 million
Total costs	\$22 million

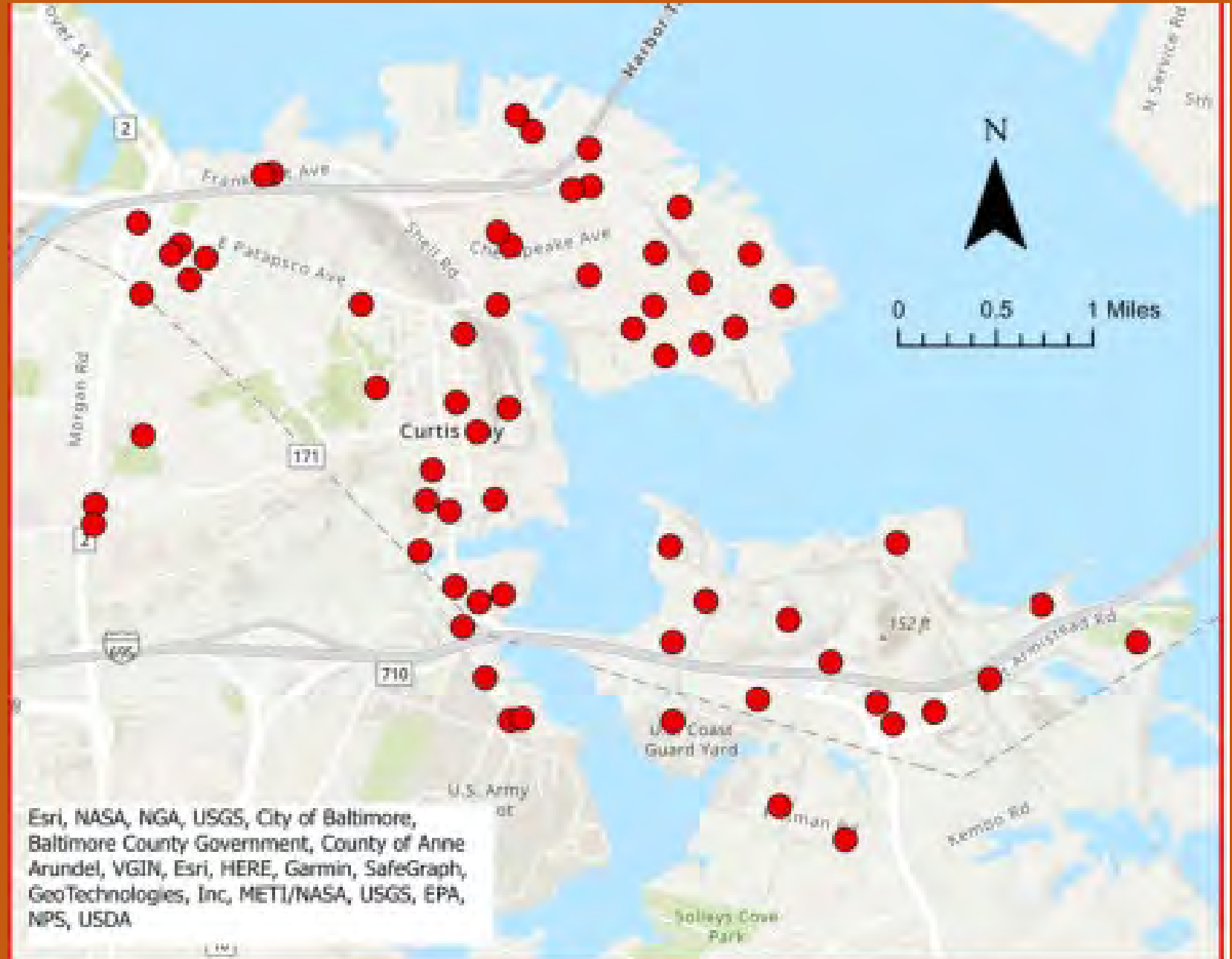
# CURTIS BAY AND ENVIRONMENTAL INJUSTICE

BRESCO INCINERATOR: MOST PM2.5 EMISSIONS IN BALTO

HAWKINS POINT LARGEST MEDICAL WASTE INCINERATOR IN THE U.S.

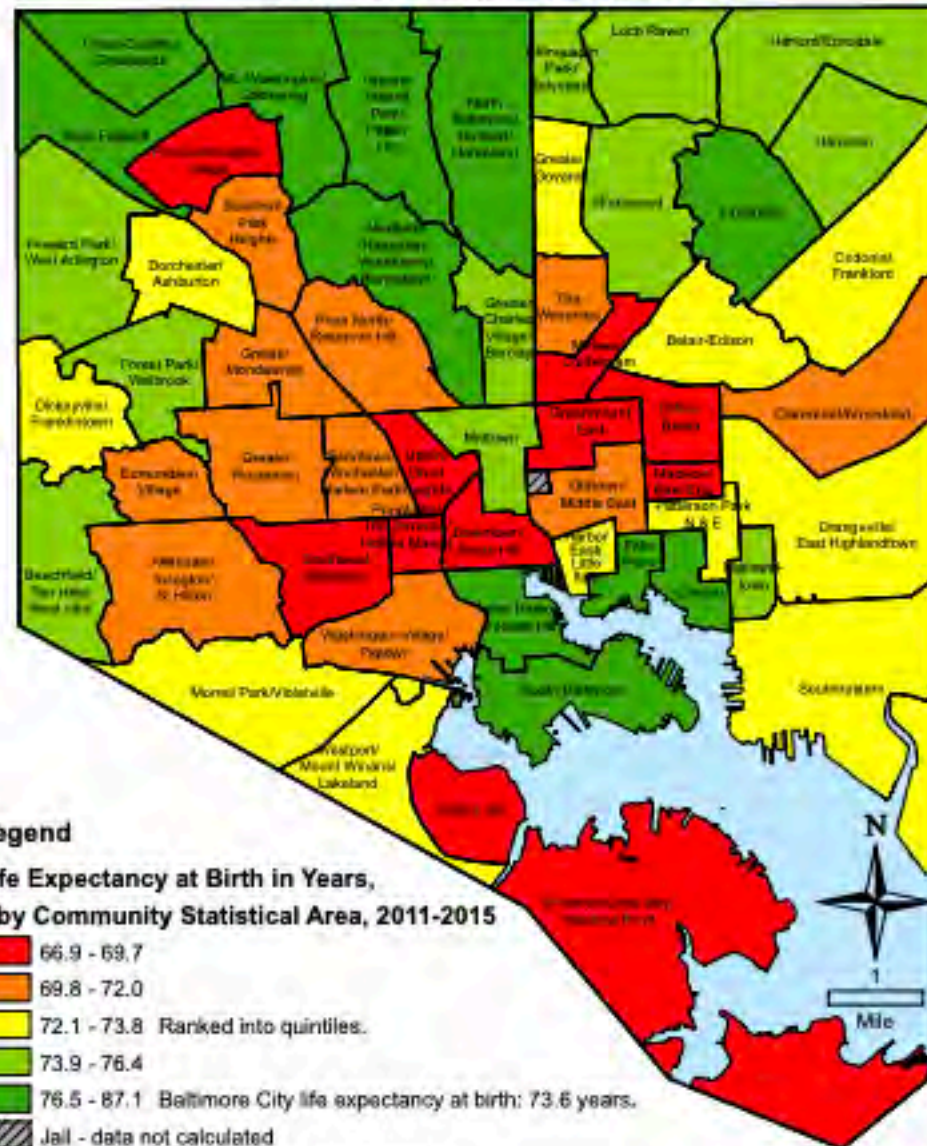
CURTIS BAY C/SX COAL TERMINALS SHIPS 30% OF U.S. COAL EXPORTS

AND MANY, MANY MORE FACILITIES



# Life Expectancy At Birth

Life Expectancy at Birth in Years,  
Baltimore City, 2011-2015



Prepared by the Office of Epidemiology Services,  
Baltimore City Health Department, January 2018.  
BCHD calculations of data from the Maryland  
Department of Health, Vital Statistics Administration.



defeated Energy Answers' plan to build the nation's largest trash-burning incinerator

Students, residents, and advocates successfully defeated Energy Answers' plan to build the nation's largest trash-burning incinerator in the Curtis Bay neighborhood of Baltimore in 2016.

# Rise, Reclaim, Rebuild!

We are the South Baltimore Community Land Trust and we believe all people have a right to quality homes in a clean, healthy and safe environment.



 **Permanently Affordable Housing**

SBCLT develops quality homes that stay affordable permanently for residents to create stability in communities facing the risk of involuntary displacement.


[Find Out More About Our Program](#) >



 **Zero Waste**


SBCLT anchors Baltimore's Community Labor Coalition for Zero Waste to develop local infrastructure and break reliance on toxic incinerators and landfills.

[Find Out More About Our Strategic Plan](#) >



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# BRESCO



A "die-in" protest outside Baltimore's Wheelabrator trash incinerator, calling on Mayor Young to appeal a court decision that struck down the city's Clean Air Act. (Handout photo)

MARVIN HAYES mentoring youth. BCC, a youth-empowered collective, Black-owned business, building a diverse composting community in Baltimore



**BLOOMBERG SCHOOL**

## Air Pollution in Baltimore's Curtis Bay Community Linked to Nearby Coal Terminal Activities and Wind

*Findings suggest that existing coal dust mitigation measures are insufficient*



Photo credit: Ryan Gattis

The teens of **Free Your Voice** are taking on a behemoth opponent: the massive freight transportation company CSX, which transported more than 8 million tons of coal through South Baltimore in 2021. CSX makes billions of dollars a year, and it's just one part of an even more massive coal industry in the U.S.

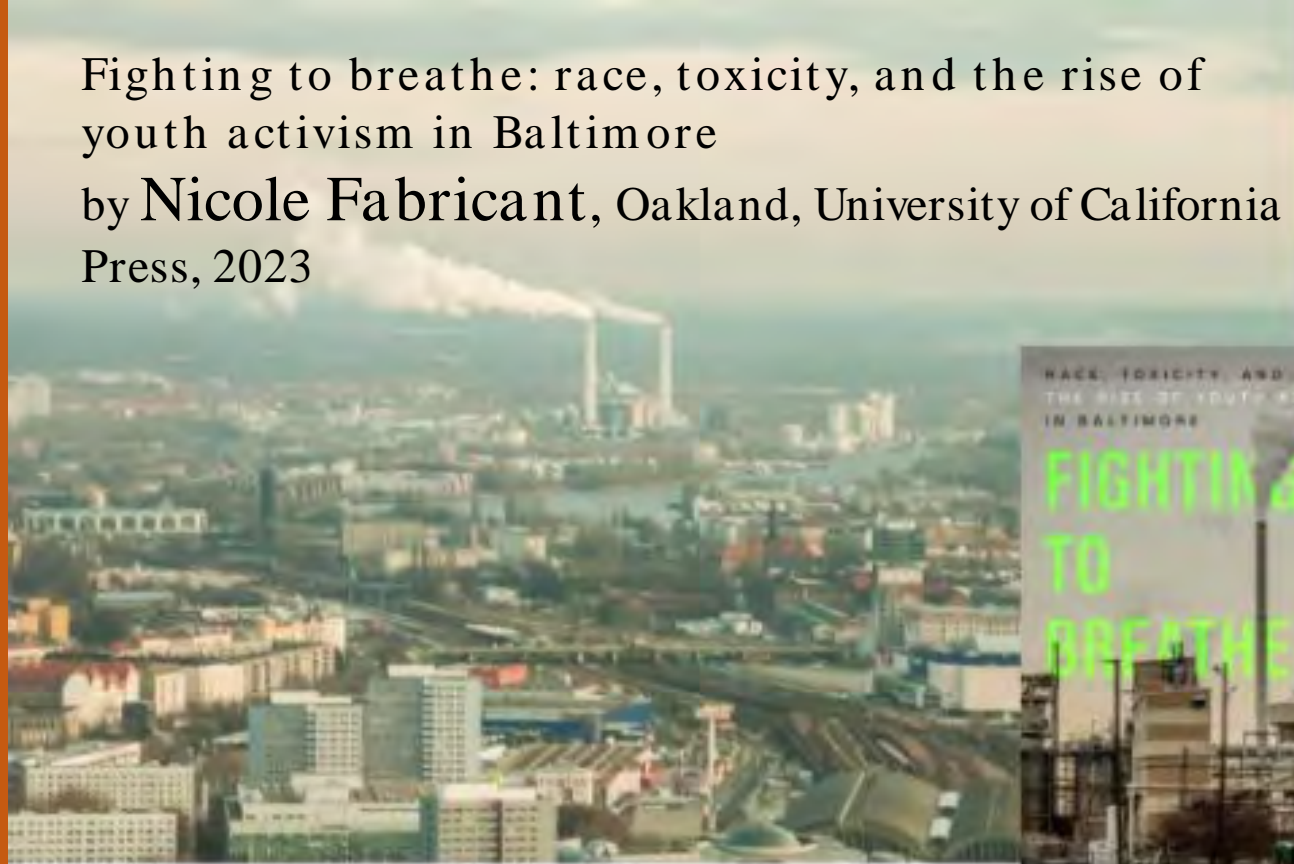


Curtis Bay residents Vilma Guttierrez and Viki Castillo display test strips covered with coal dust – data collected outside the windscreen on the south side of the CSX terminal. (Ryan Johnson, South Baltimore Community Land Trust)

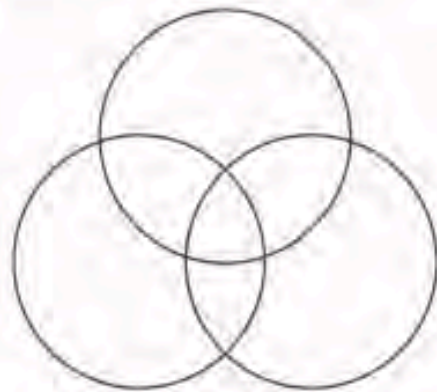
*Black Carbon, Particulates*

Fighting to breathe: race, toxicity, and the rise of youth activism in Baltimore

by Nicole Fabricant, Oakland, University of California Press, 2023



**TRAUMA-INFORMED**  
APPROACH TO RESILIENCE PLANNING



**BIOECOLOGICAL**  
READING OF VULNERABILITY

**HEALING JUSTICE**  
ORIENTATION TO POLICY INTERVENTIONS

FIGURE 3

The integrative resilience model (Camporesi 2022)

# CHESAPEAKE PSR PHYSICIANS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

