life-centered design: beyond anthropocentrism and white supremacy in design

November 17, 2022 5:00-8:00 pm, MICA Main Building

community.ecodesigncollective.org



welcome!

lee davis edc curator





land acknowledgement

we live and work on the traditional ancestral and unceded lands of the Piscataway and the Susquehannock tribes

goals

- share edc mission, goals & activities
- explore concept of 'life-centered design'
- celebrate launch of edc online platform
- engage new voices & build community!

introductions: edc curators



manasi eesha shashawnda cristina

anand nicole lee michael what is edc?

anand pandian
edc curator





community.ecodesigncollective.org

mission

The Ecological Design Collective is a community for radical ecological imagination and collaborative practice. With roots in Baltimore and relations around the world, we aim to build space for researchers, designers, activists, artists, and others to conceive and develop alternative ecological futures together. We pursue and support ecological and life-centered design processes in a collective manner, grounded in the insights that arise from collaborative exploration and in the resourcefulness of the natural world. Working in a spirit of attentive listening and mutual responsibility, we seek to build community and capacity for social, economic, and environmental justice. We intend to nurture diverse experiments in ecological transformation: material and inventive outcomes that always acknowledge their social roots, that take failures as necessary and inevitable compost, that pursue joyful exchange as a vital nourishment for diverse communities.

HOPKINS ECOLOGICAL DESIGN INITIATIVE



ecological design collective



THE VISIBLE AND THE INVISIBLE

An Artist and a Scientist in Conversation with an Urban Stream

CARSTEN PRASSE

JORDAN TIERNEY
environmental artist

A live conversation alongside
Baltimore's Herring Run
stream - on perception and
imagination in both art and
science, on how to
understand environmental
degradation through creative



Wednesday, April 28th, 2021 4pm - 5pm EST

Find "Happenings" on ecodesigncollective.org for details on how to attend online, or in-person if you're in Baltimore.





ecological design



QUILIAN RIANO

Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative College of Architecture & Environmental Design Kent State University

NEGOTIATIONS OF SPATIAL AGENCY



Thursday Feb 4, 2021
• 12pm EST / 9am PST / 5pm GMT

Visit forum.ecodesigncollective.org to attend!



the ecological design collective



KOFI BOONE

University Faculty Scholar and Professo

Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning North Carolina State University

BLACK LANDSCAPES MATTER

"What are the implications of this era on the landscapes where black people live, work, worship, remember, and play?"



Thursday May 6th, 2021
• 12pm EST / 9am PST / 5pm GMT

JOIN US AT ECODESIGNCOLLECTIVE.ORG

Find 'Happenings' to attend



the ecological design collective presents



THEODORE (TED) JOJOLA

Distinguished Professor, School of Architecture + Planning, University of New Mexico (UNM) Founder and Director, Indigenous Design + Planning Institute (ID+Pi)

Moderated by Lee Davis, Co-Director, MICA Center for Social Desig

INDIGENOUS PLANNING AND PLACEKNOWING

Employing a Seven
Generations model and
indigenous PlaceKnowing
to inform community
design and development



Thursday Nov 4, 2021 12pm EST / 9am PST / 4pm GMT

JOIN US AT ECODESIGNCOLLECTIVE.ORG

Find 'Happenings' to attend.

Sustainable Design Practicum

Development without Displacement

This year-long course is a chance to join the collective struggle to build equitable and sustainable urban futures in the city of Baltimore. Co-taught by community organizer Shashawnda Campbell (South Baltimore Community Land Trust) and anthropologist Anand Pandian (Johns Hopkins University).

Students will gain first-hand exposure to environmental conditions, community needs, and organizing efforts in south Baltimore, working closely together with community members in developing collaborative and interdisciplinary projects in sustainable design.

AS 070.433/633 / Wednesdays 3:30-7pm / Fall 2022 & Spring 2023

Open to any graduate or undergraduate student concerned about environmental justice and sustainability. Meeting times include transport to/from the Homewood campus. Apply via the QR code.













ENGAGE



Discussions

☆ Groups

Projects

Members

Events

Vision

TOOLS

■ Notepad

Sketch Board

Sharing Docs

Share a Project

Share an Event

□ EDC Meeting Room

/ How To

Timeline



Hello! Welcome to the Ecological Design Collective, a community for radical ecological imagination and collaborative practice.

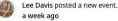
WELCOME

With roots in Baltimore and relations around the world. we're building a place for researchers, designers, activists, artists, and others to conceive and develop alternative ecological futures.

Sign up to join us, and feel free to introduce yourself on the Timeline feed. The "How To" page on the sidebar has tips on how to use this space.

All Updates

Q Search Feed...







Life-Centered Design: Beyond anthropocentrism and white supremacy in design

In response to a confluence of challenges - a global pandemic; increasing economic disparities; systemic racism and social inequity; rising political division, nationalism and authoritarianism;...

Manasi Karthik, Jigyasa Tuli and 3 others like this

Madeline Sides created the group - Ecological Restoration x Design

5 days ago

Michael Degani, Manasi Karthik and 1 other like this

Anand Pandian posted an update 5 days ago

There is no such thing as waste in general. In the real world, of ecological relations, everything turns on the specific needs that something meets. An all too familiar category failure and design flaw.

Upcoming Events

NOV 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm EST

17 Life-Centered Design: Beyond anthropocentrism and white supremacy in design

View Calendar

Share your event!

Groups

NEWEST

ACTIVE POPULAR



EDC Curators active 10 hours ago



Visual mediums active 4 days ago



2022-23 Sustainable Design Practicum

active 5 days ago

Ecological Restoration x



Design active 5 days ago



Psychology and Design active 2 weeks ago

SEE ALL

Projects



Urban Aquaculture for Climate Justice and...



Recently Active

Members

SEE ALL



Tory Stephens posted an update 5 weeks ago

Nominations are open for the 2023 Grist 50!

The Grist 50 is our annual list of emerging leaders in climate, sustainability, and equity. It's made up of scientists, policymakers, artists, farmers, justice advocates, entrepreneurs, technologists, chefs, clean-energy wonks — all kinds of people in communities across the U.S. who are making a clean, g...

Read more



gristorg.typeform.com

Grist 50 Nominations

Climate leaders are everywhere. Tell us about the ones who inspire you.

Eesha Patne and Anand Pandian like this





Anand Pandian posted an update a week ago

There is no such thing as waste in general. In the real world, of ecological relations, everything turns on the specific needs that something meets. An all too familiar category failure and design flaw.



Michael Degani and Manasi Karthik like this



Anand Pandian posted an update 8 weeks ago

Just another beautiful tree.



Manasi Karthik, Michael Degani and 1 other like this

Collective Forum

Our new community platform

♠ Tina Engels-Schwarzpaul replied 2 months, 2 weeks ago 3 Members · 5 Replies

All Discussions Subscribe Welcome to the Collective Forum ♠ Tina Engels-Schwarzpaul replied 1 month, 2 weeks ago 2 Members · 1 Reply **Ecological restoration** ♠ Madeline Sides replied 1 week, 3 days ago 1 Member · 0 Replies The discipline of Psychology and its relationship to theories of design ♠ Josh Rubin replied 2 weeks, 5 days ago 2 Members · 3 Replies Climate and the Psyche ♠ Michael Degani replied 1 month, 2 weeks ago 2 Members · 3 Replies Manifesto for Just Cities ♠ Cristina Murphy replied 1 month, 2 weeks ago 3 Members · 4 Replies Outwitting the Law of Exchange ♠ Michael Degani replied 1 month, 3 weeks ago 2 Members · 2 Replies Bookshelf ♠ Manasi Karthik replied 1 month, 3 weeks ago 5 Members · 10 Replies Degrowth debates ♠ Manasi Karthik replied 1 month, 4 weeks ago 1 Member · 0 Replies Conciliation ♠ Josh Rubin replied 2 months, 2 weeks ago 2 Members · 2 Replies



Nicole Labruto posted a new post. 2 months ago



Urban Aquaculture for Climate Justice and Local Food Sove reignty

Check out this Baltimore-based project by a few EDC members and Black Yield Institute, a Black-led think tank and collective action network that addresses food...

Eesha Patne, Alejandra Melian-Morse and 2 others like this



Nicole Labruto posted a new event. 7 weeks ago

BALTI MORE COMPOST COLLECTIVE

2022 Black Gold Fundraiser: Baltimore Compost Collective

Saturday, October 1, 5-10pm Help us to raise funds for Baltimore's first EV Dump Truck, just for compost! Join us for an evening of fundraising...

Tory Stephens, Cristina Murphy and 1 other like this



2022-23 Sustainable Design Practicum

Private • Group • Active 2 hours ago



✓ Organizer





Psychology and Design

Public • Group • Active a day ago



✓ Member

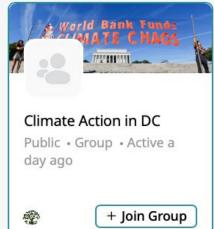


Ecological Restoration x Design

Public • Group • Active a day ago



✓ Member





EDC Curators

Private • Group • Active a day ago



✓ Organizer



Visual mediums

Public • Group • Active a week ago



✓ Member



Life-centered design

Public • Group • Active 3 weeks ago



✓ Member



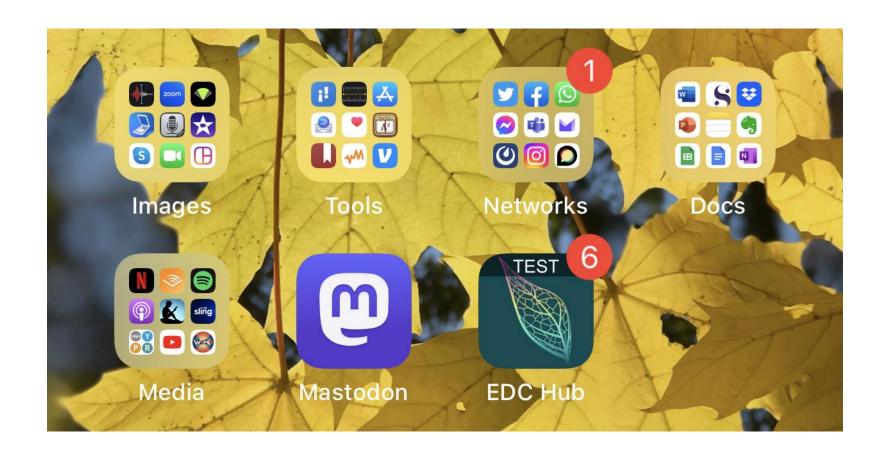


Life-centered design

Public • Group • Active 3 weeks ago







join us!





community.ecodesigncollective.org

life-centered design: beyond anthropocentrism

beyond anthropocentrism and white supremacy in design



life-centered design

 from white-supremacy to equity- & justice-centered design

(valuing <u>all</u> human life)





Racism and inequity are products of design. They can be redesigned.

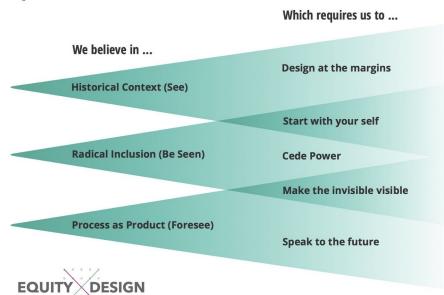
• • •

We are a country founded on the genocide of one people and the enslavement of another. We have yet to reconcile the impact of this inheritance on us all.

The experiment of America is 240 years old. In these 240 years, systems were designed that isolate and separate us, that empower a chosen few with the privilege of invention, innovation, and creativity, that lay the groundwork for misunderstanding, fear, and ultimately hate.

Racism and inequity are products of design. They can be redesigned.

EQUITY X DESIGN FRAMEWORK





02-16-17 | INNOVATION BY DESIGN

Want To Fight Inequality? Forget Design Thinking

Born in the wake of Ferguson, the Creative Reaction Lab rejects "design thinking" for a more inclusive approach to systemic inequality.



1/13 Directly after the events in Ferguson, MO, Antionette Carroll set up a 24-hour workshop for designers and protesters to brainstorm creative responses.

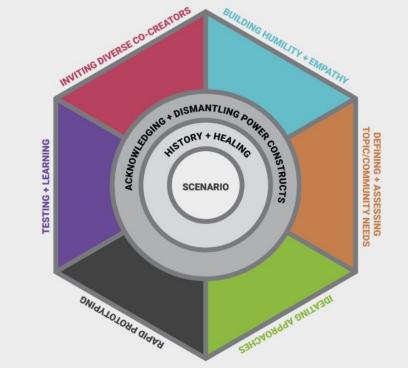


BY MEG MILLER 7 MINUTE READ



In the days after a police officer shot Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, August 9, 2014, Antionette Carroll watched as her hometown erupted in protest. For weeks, hundreds of

Source: Creative Reaction Lab



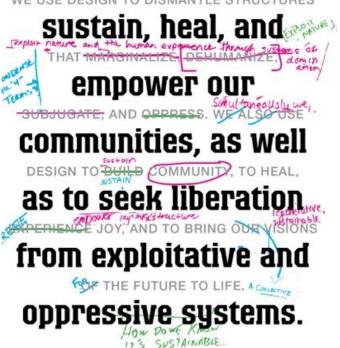
Equity-Centered Community Design (ECCD)

Equity-Centered Community Design, created by <u>Creative Reaction Lab</u>, is a unique creative problem solving process based on equity, humility-building, integrating history and healing practices, addressing power dynamics, and co-creating with the community. This design process focuses on a



We use design to

VE USE DESIGN TO DISMANTLE STRUCTURES



What is Liberatory Design?

Liberatory Design is an evolution of the design thinking methodology.

It's an approach to problem solving that helps people translate their equity values into action.



Sources: Design Justice Network | National Equity Project



About BiD

The Black in Design Conference, organized by the Harvard University Graduate School of Design African American Student Union, recognizes the contributions of the African diaspora to the design fields and promotes discourse around the agency of the design profession to address and dismantle the institutional barriers faced by our communities.

The inaugural conference was held in 2015, followed by conferences in 2017 and 2019. The fourth biannual conference, **Black Matter**, took

Source: Black in Design Conference



life-centered design

 from anthropocentric (human-centered) to multi-species-centered design

(valuing <u>all life</u>)



Design for All Life

Is it time to re-examine human-centered design?

By Core Jr - March 3, 2015 in Columns | Sustainable Design | design.edu

By Prasad Boradkar, Co-Director of the Biomimicry Center, Arizona State University

It was sixty years ago that pioneering industrial designer Henry Dreyfuss first introduced us to Joe and Josephine in his seminal book *Designing For People*. Every industrial

Sources: Core 77 | ASU | Design Like You Mean It



Human-Centered Design Is Broken. Here's a Better Alternative.

Hear me out for a second: What if we tried bee-centered design?











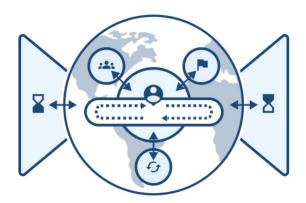
10 Principles of Life Centered Design

How We May Begin to Design for a Future of Inclusivity



Life-centred design

A snapshot of the emerging framework that expands human-centred design to consider all peoples, all non-humans, and all planet.

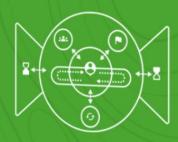


Life-centred design

Sources: Sentient Future Lab | Future Scouting

THE LIFE-CENTRED DESIGN GUIDE

PRODUCT DESIGN STRATEGIES AND TOOLS SUPPORTING A THRIVING PLANET FOR ALL



DAMIEN LUTZ

The Life-centred Design Guide

An introduction to designing more regenerative and socially just products—includes exercises, tools, and resources

Get the book

Bonus resources





044_research papers_Design for Life: Moholy-Nagy's Holistic Blueprint for Social Design Pedagogy and Practice

DESIGN FOR LIFE:

MOHOLY-NAGY'S HOLISTIC

BLUEPRINT FOR SOCIAL DESIGN

PEDAGOGY AND PRACTICE

Lee Davis and Bori Fehér

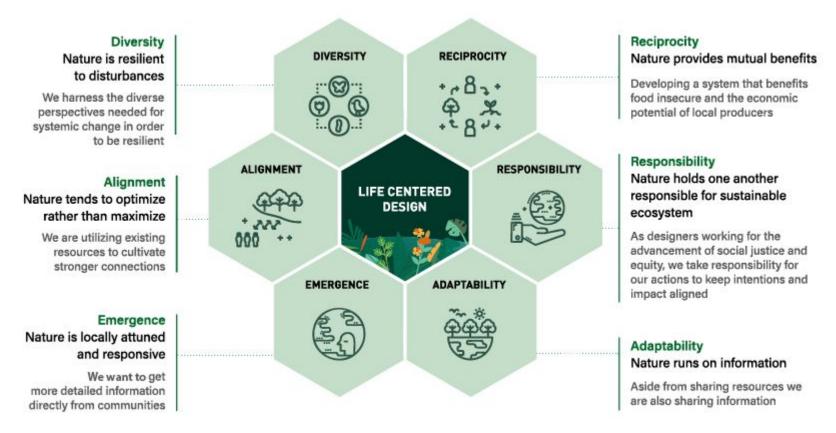
ADCTD ACT

Design discourse is evolving in response to a confluence of global challenges; a pandemic; increasing economic disparities; systemic racism and social inequality; rising authoritarianism, nationalism and political division; and the urgency of the climate crisis. Designers are increasingly questioning their role and responsibility in the world and seeking opportunities to leverage their creative talents to address these intractable problems. At the center of this critique is also a fundamental reappraisal of the predominant design paradigm, the anthropocentric process of "human-centered design," promulgated since the mid-1050s (Drevfuss 1055). A growing body of literature has emerged, questioning the humancentric perspective in design (Benyus 1997; Norman 2005; IDEO 2014; Fulton 2019; Escobar 2018; Boradkar 2015; Weaver 2019; Hess 2020). Concomitantly, the concept of "life-centered design" is gaining attention among design educators, students and practitioners. But to refer to the concept of life-centered design as "new" would be disingenuous. László Moholy-Nagy advocated for such a revolution a hundred years ago. From the early 1920s he called for a holistic, organic, life-centered design pedagogy, practice, and mindset. Much has been written about Moholy-Nagy's art, photography and teaching but relatively little attention has been given to his pioneering thinking, writing, and practice in "social design." Moholy-Nagy was also a pioneer in articulating a role for designers in addressing the critical economic, social, and environmental challenges of the time. As the founding director of the New Bauhaus and the Institute of Design in Chicago, he believed designers would need to move beyond the consumerist view in favor of "a better understanding of those principles which control all life"-individual life, social life, and life in the natural world. Driven by his own humble beginnings and rural upbringing, his personal trauma in war, the rise of Fascism and the onset of a second world war, his itinerant life across diverse cultural, artistic, natural, and theoretical influences, Moholy-Nagy evolved a blueprint for a vision of life-centered design that is as salient today as it was a century ago.

#holism, #design pedagogy, #life-centered design, #New Bauhaus, #social design

https://doi.org/10.21096/disegno_2021_1-2ld-bf

Design Principles: Life-Centered Design*



^{*} Biomimicry for Social Innovation (2021) - MICA Center for Social Design student team: Sasha Avrutina, Eesha Patne, Hanah Murphy, Eunsoo Kim, Ching Yi Chen

life-centered design values and uplifts the diversity of all life and seeks to acknowledge, challenge, and reimagine systems and design practices that uphold persistent inequity and injustice, both between people and between people and the wider natural world

nicole labruto edc curator





community.ecodesigncollective.org

life-centered anthropology: the multispecies turn in anthropology

life-centered anthropology: the multispecies turn in anthropology

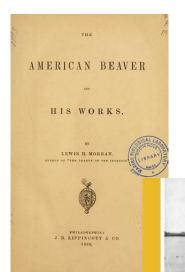
anthropology: study of relations; how people collectively make and live their worlds, with attention to power

multispecies ethnography: origins

PIGS FOR THE ANCESTORS

Ridned in the Ecology of a New Guinea People

by Roy A. Rappaport

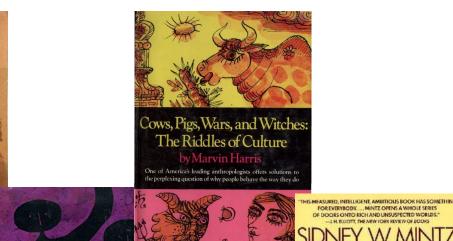




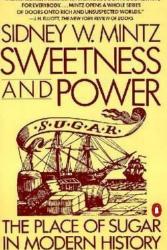
THE NUER

A description of the modes of livelihood and political institutions of a Nilotic people

F F EVANS PRITCHARD



Clifford Geertz
The Interpretation
of Cultures



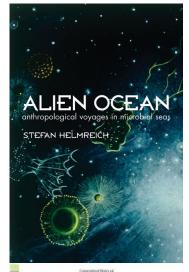
multispecies ethnography: influences

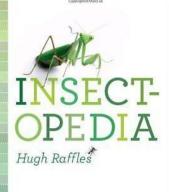
political ecology

science, technology, and society (STS)



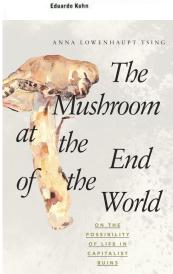
posthuman turn

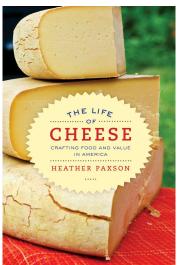


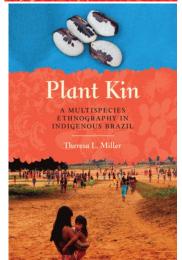


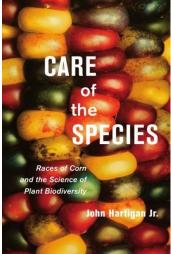


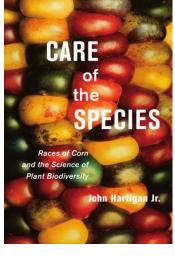
HOW FORESTS THINK Toward an Anthropology beyond the Human







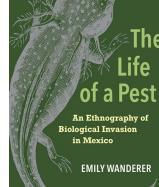






WATER AND MORAL ECOLOGY IN TURKEY





BECOMING SALMON

AOUACULTURE and the DOMESTICATION of a FISH



MARIANNE ELISABETH LIEN

multispecies ethnography: critiques

- reliant on scientific accounts
- decenters politics
- neglects animals rights
- misaligned commitments

considering "life"

- "life" as romantic category
- "life" biological reality
- "life" as ethical question

shashawnda campbell edc curator





community.ecodesigncollective.org



About SBCLT

Affordable Housing

Zero Waste

Impact

Take Action

News & Resources

Event Calendar 💆 Join Our Mailing List 🕻 Contact Us 🔾

Donate

SBCLT is a community led organization

working to create permanently affordable housing, development without displacement and zero waste in Baltimore.

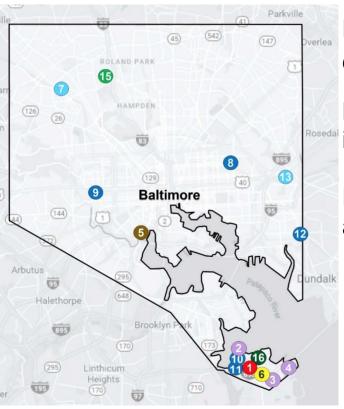
Sign Up To Get Involved!

Jan 14, 2022

Baltimore Needs a Compost Facility

Learn More

Failed Human Design



Most communities of color are being used as a dumping ground

BRESCO incinerator, landfill and other polluting waste infrastructure are concentrated in South Baltimore.

Environmental Injustice and structurally racist - poor and black communities bear the burdens.

Curtis Bay Disasters Timeline

Fen Workers Die In Explosion At Ordnance Depot 2006: SASOL RELEASES CANCER CAUSING BENZENE AND FAILS TO NOTIFY LOCAL AND NATIONAL AUTHORITIES

2022: EMPLOYEE WHO DIED IN 3-ALARM BLAZE AT FUEL FACILITY IN CURTIS BAY IS IDENTIFIED,

BALTIMORE FIRE OFFICIALS SAY

FIRE SPREADS TERROR

Succession Of Explosions Shakes Village Of Wagner's Point.

LOSS ESTIMATED AT \$60,000

United States Asphalt And Texas Oil Company's Flants Damaged— Two Men Hurt.

Curtis Bay plant evacuated as tanker with ammonia derails

BRUCE DEFINES
BLAST DANGER
AT CURTIS BAY

Makes Caustic Speech In Senate On Menace To Baltimore.

ACCUSES MADDEN
OF PARTISANSHIP

Upper Branch Of Congress Accepts Amendment Delaying Funds.

EXPLOSIVES ISSUE BROUGHT UP AGAIN

Gambrill Is Asked To Ascertain How Much Remains At Curtis Bay

SHARRETTS TAKES STEP

Whether Another Move Will Be Made In Matter Is Undetermined 100 SHELLS ARE EXPLODED AS BLAZE AT CURTIS BAY

Series Of Blasts On Salvage Dump Rocks Section Within Mile Radius—Two Tons Of T N T Reported Burned.

DEPOT ROUTS 150 FAMILIES

RESIDENTS FLEE IN AUTOS; FEARS FELT FOR FACTORIES

Efforts To Have Munitions Removed Will Be Renewed In Congress—Grave Danger To City Demonstrated, Mayor and Bruce Say.

Coal Explosion in Curtis Bay



≡ SECTIONS | SPECIAL SERIES

report finds

BaltimoreBrew

SUPPOI



Our life expectancy is **20 years less** in Curtis Bay than in other parts of Baltimore. Together, we're working to build a **healthy**, **stable community that we & our children deserve**.

We deserve:

- stronger standards that protect our health, worker safety & our shared environment
- relief funds to residents that mitigate the health
 property damages from hosting toxic waste infrastructure for decades
- a "Just Transition for Zero Waste & Green Infrastructure Fund" poid by polluters to shift from coal & incinerators to safe green infrastructure awned by communities & workers
- protections for sanitation workers as we transition from outdated technologies to current approaches
- an end to subsidies for the incinerators, landfills & dirty energy we are transitioning away from
- strengthened local end markets for compost, recycled commodities, & renewable energy

The **Community of Curtis Bay Association (CCBA)** meets every second Thursday of each month.

get involved & learn more: ccba21226@gmail.com ilovecurtisbay.com





We continue to see these lives of people of color/low-income at the beginning of the sacrifice list

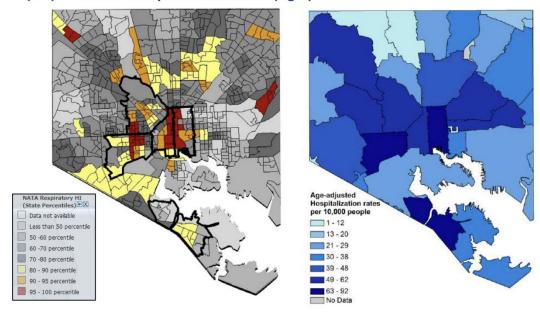
Govt have not done much work to value people over industry

Health Impacts

 Communities of color have faces many health impact when it comes to air pollution ect

 These communities have also been redlined

Figure ES-3. 2011 Comparison of Respiratory Risks from Toxic Air Pollution (left) to Asthma Hospitalization Rates (right)

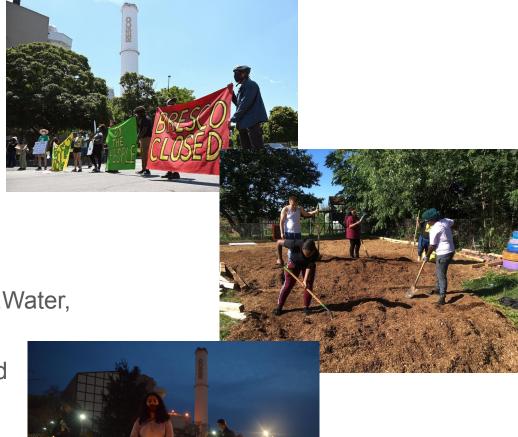


Note: Bold boundaries on Respiratory Risk map highlight zip codes with the five highest asthma-related hospitalization rates in 2011.

Human Centered Design

Ideal world

- No community would be used as a dumping ground
- -No sacrificing of any human group
- -All have the human right to Clean Air, Water, and Housing ect.
- -We ALL have healthy sustainable and thriving communities



discussion!

cristina murphy edc curator





community.ecodesigncollective.org

thank you!
please join us in the dome for further conversation!

