



# Find Out What's Happening in Your Neighborhood

## Using EPA's Toxics Release Inventory (TRI)

*Do nearby industrial facilities release toxic chemicals?*

*What kinds of toxic chemicals are they releasing?*

*What is being done to reduce toxic chemical releases?*

## TRI can help you find the answers!

### It's your RIGHT TO KNOW!

We all have the right to know about the chemicals we may be exposed to in our daily lives. The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 and the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990 require certain industrial facilities across the country to report annually to EPA's **Toxics Release Inventory (TRI)** about toxic chemicals they release\* and what they're doing to prevent or reduce pollution.

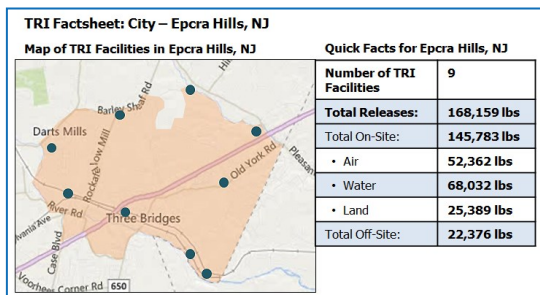
TRI includes data about more than 22,000 facilities across the country and covers more than 675 toxic chemicals.

### TRI can identify:

- Nearby industrial facilities that release toxic chemicals into your air, water, and land.
- Which chemicals each facility releases and how much.
- Pollution prevention (P2) activities that reduce toxic releases.
- Which facilities are reducing toxic releases.
- Potential health impacts linked to the chemicals released.

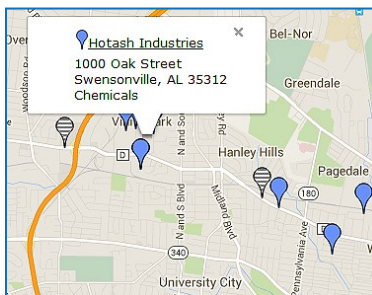
Visit [www.epa.gov/tri](http://www.epa.gov/tri) to:

#### Learn more about toxic chemicals in your community



Use the interactive map at the bottom left of the page to learn about toxic chemicals in your community.

#### Learn more about facilities in your neighborhood



Fill out the "Find TRI Facilities" search box at the bottom right of the page to learn about facilities in your neighborhood.

*"We all have a right to know what toxic chemicals are being used and released into our environment, and what steps companies are taking to reduce their releases to the environment or, better yet, prevent waste from being generated in the first place."*

– EPA Administrator  
Gina McCarthy



### Is it safe to live near facilities that release toxic chemicals?

- Although TRI can't tell you whether or to what extent you've been exposed to toxic chemicals, it can be used as a starting point in evaluating potential risks to the health of your community and the environment.
- EPA, state and tribal governments implement environmental regulations to reduce potential risks to human health and the environment.
- Facilities are often required to use approved control technologies and methods to reduce or eliminate toxic releases.
- EPA also encourages facilities to prevent or reduce pollution at the source and to promote recycling whenever possible.

To learn more, visit [www.epa.gov/tri/risk](http://www.epa.gov/tri/risk).

\*A "release" is an emission or discharge to the air, water, and/or land.

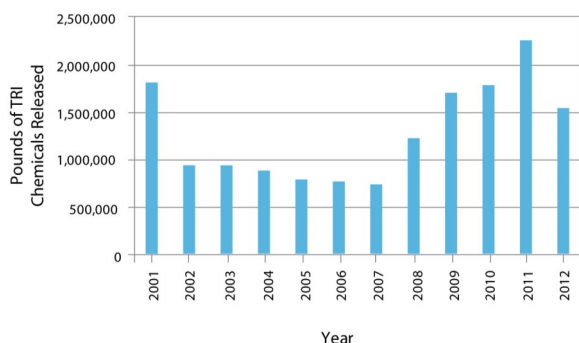


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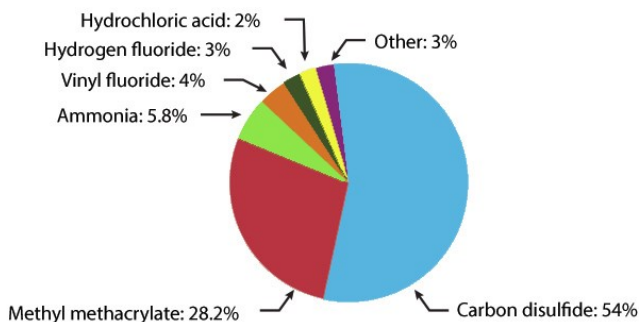
### Have chemical releases in my neighborhood changed over time?

Historical data are available to track the trends of toxic releases from facilities in your community.



### Which chemicals are being released in my neighborhood?

You can determine which chemicals are being released to air, water, and land, and which ones have the largest releases.



### What you can do

- Use TRI data to start a dialogue about your community's environmental health with: neighborhood associations; community-based and environmental groups; local, state, and federal government agencies; elected officials; colleges; researchers; local facilities; industry trade associations; and your neighbors and others in your community.
- Encourage local facilities to implement new pollution prevention (P2) activities or expand existing ones.
- Find out if a facility is in compliance with environmental laws and regulations on EPA's Enforcement and Compliance History Online website at [www.epa.gov/echo](http://www.epa.gov/echo).
- Report a suspected violation at [www.epa.gov/tips](http://www.epa.gov/tips) or contact your state environmental agency at [www.epa.gov/epahome/state.htm](http://www.epa.gov/epahome/state.htm).

### TRI and Pollution Prevention

- The goal of pollution prevention (P2) is to eliminate or reduce the creation of pollutants (also called "source reduction").
- TRI tracks industrial facilities' progress toward this goal and collects data on effective P2 practices.
- TRI can be used to:
  - Identify facilities that are implementing P2 to reduce their toxic emissions.
  - Promote "tech transfer" of innovative P2 activities from facilities that have successfully used P2 to facilities that could be doing more.
- Use EPA's TRI P2 Search Tool at [www.epa.gov/tri/p2](http://www.epa.gov/tri/p2).

### What are the top releasing facilities in my neighborhood?

It is easy to find out which facilities in your neighborhood release the largest amounts of toxic chemicals.

Facility Name	On-Site Releases
Evanescent Piping, Inc.	1,564,756 lbs.
Hotash Industries	83,540 lbs.
VZC Chemical Corporation	65,653 lbs.
Vivido Paints, LLC	41,234 lbs.
Efna Manufacturing, Inc.	30,128 lbs.

### TRI is only one piece of the puzzle

While TRI provides important information about toxic chemical releases in your community, to see the whole picture you'll need additional information about other types of environmental releases, environmental conditions, air and water quality monitoring, compliance with environmental laws and regulations, and more.



Two online tools for additional information include:

**MyEnvironment:** [www.epa.gov/myenvironment](http://www.epa.gov/myenvironment) — access a wide range of environmental information about your community.

**EJSCREEN:** [www.epa.gov/ejscreen](http://www.epa.gov/ejscreen) — EPA's environmental justice screening and mapping tool.