

****Tell our leaders to stop tank farms from dumping hazardous pollutants in our neighborhoods.****

There are **120 large petroleum tanks in South Portland**, run by six major oil companies. Residents have raised concerns for decades that the tanks compromise air quality for the people who live, work and play very close to them. New state data measuring air quality along the fencelines of these tank farms has confirmed what we've felt—and smelled—for years: **They are bad neighbors, profiting off harm to our community.**

Concerning readings were collected near all the tanks, but two tank farms stand out. At Citgo on Mechanic Street, which sits very close to homes in Pleasantdale, monitors found the air **consistently and dramatically exceeded state standards for benzene, a well-studied carcinogen.** Benzene measurements were highest at South Portland Terminal on Lincoln Street, bordered by businesses, homes and Forest City Cemetery, with one reading registering **12 times higher** than the state's ambient air quality standard, meant to protect people from cancer risk.

Now is the time to act:

- 1. Make plans to come to the City Council workshop on Tuesday, Oct. 27** at 6:30 p.m., South Portland High School (637 Highland Ave.).
- 2. Join PSP and neighbors on Thursday, Oct. 15 for a community meeting** to share ideas, concerns, and stories: 5:30 p.m. food and community; 6-7 p.m. discussion. First Congregational Church UCC on Meeting House Hill (301 Cottage Road). ([RSVPs](#) are great/not required.) Kids welcome.
- 3. Email the City Council before the workshop** and ask them to pressure the DEP to use the existing licensing process to stop tank farms from dumping pollutants into our neighborhoods. City Council email addresses are found here: <https://southportland.gov/411/City-Council>.

Did you know: Licenses that the Maine DEP issues to tank farms in South Portland allows them to spew **600 TONS** of health-harming air pollution into our neighborhoods.