



# Fresh Air Newsletter



We hope to see you at the starting line for the 2018 Run for Clean Air!

## CLEAN AIR COUNCIL’S 37<sup>TH</sup> RUN FOR CLEAN AIR

Presented by Toyota Hybrids | Sunday, April 22, 2018

Earth Day is the most important holiday of any environmentalist’s calendar, and for the first time in many years, the region’s largest Earth Day celebration is actually on Earth Day! Come celebrate with us at Clean Air Council’s 37th Run for Clean Air presented by Toyota Hybrids on Sunday, April 22nd on MLK Drive next to the Art Museum. Run, walk, and party alongside your friends and family while raising money to support Pennsylvania’s oldest environmental non-profit, Clean Air Council.

The Run for Clean Air has something for all different fitness levels and ages! Runners can enjoy a fast and smooth 5K course along the Schuylkill River or the more challenging 10K course that loops further into West Fairmount Park. If those runs seem daunting, there’s a 3K Walk that’s literally a stroll in the park to get you excited for the Earth Day fun. You can even bring your young environmentalists to participate in the 1/2 mile or 250 yard Kids’ Fun Runs.

The Run for Clean Air has always been more than just a run. It is a celebration in support of clean air and a healthy environment that you have been supporting for nearly 40 years. The Council wouldn’t be where it is today without the incredible enthusiasm of the greater Philadelphia area’s runners.

Our run is more important than ever before. Recently, there has been a new level of anti-environmentalism and reliance on junk science from the federal government. The result has been dangerous rollbacks of environmental regulations making the future very uncertain.

As part of our response, the Council is expanding the Run for Clean Air beyond Philadelphia with the Virtual 5k. This year, we urge our supporters and partners wherever you are to gather a group of runners, walkers or friends and participate in the Run for Clean Air Virtual 5k in your hometown to show the government, courts, and polluters which side the people are on.

### the event

- WHEN: Sunday, April 22, 2018
- WHERE: Begins at Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr.
- TIME: First race begins at 7:30 a.m.
- FUN FOR ALL AGES: 10k run, 5k run, 3k walk, two Kids’ Fun Runs, and our first ever Virtual 5k!!
- LEARN MORE: [www.cleanair.org/runforcleanair](http://www.cleanair.org/runforcleanair)

Whether you’re on MLK Drive, your favorite neighborhood running path, or a treadmill at the gym, join with thousands of runners and show your support this Earth Day with the Run for Clean Air! To register for the run or the Virtual 5k, or simply to find more information, navigate to [cleanair.org/runforcleanair/](http://cleanair.org/runforcleanair/) and choose your preferred event. We look forward to seeing you on MLK Drive or hearing about your race wherever you choose to run it!

For any questions, please contact Special Events Director Bobby Szafranski, [rszafranski@cleanair.org](mailto:rszafranski@cleanair.org) or call 215.567.4004 ext. 112.



### NEW FOR 2018, THE RUN FOR CLEAN AIR FEATURES A VIRTUAL RACE THAT GROWS OUR EARTH DAY CELEBRATION BEYOND MLK DRIVE!

The Virtual 5k is perfect for environmentalists who want to support Clean Air Council this Earth Day but can’t physically make it to the Run’s starting line on April 22nd. To register for the Virtual 5k, simply go to the registration site mentioned below and choose “Virtual 5k” as your registration option. You will then be able to run or walk the race on your own terms and course any time from Sunday April 15th to Sunday April 29th. Your results and race gear will be sent to you shortly after the race takes place on the 22nd.

REGISTER NOW [www.cleanair.org/runforcleanair](http://www.cleanair.org/runforcleanair)

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# MARINER EAST 2: *Legal Update*

The Council has taken the lead in protecting public safety and the environment as Pennsylvania is dealing with the fallout from Sunoco’s Mariner East 2 and 2X pipelines. The pipelines start in Ohio and are designed to carry byproducts of fracking to the Marcus Hook terminal on the Delaware River for shipping overseas. The Council is suing the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Sunoco for endangering the public with its reckless and ill-conceived 350-mile-long pipeline project.

In June and July, 2017, a series of incidents came to light of Sunoco contaminating drinking water wells by drilling through the ground using horizontal directional drilling (HDD). The Council, along with its environmental partners, asked a court called the Environmental Hearing Board to halt Sunoco’s use of HDD—which it did. Work stopped while the Council hammered out an agreement with Sunoco and DEP to make Sunoco’s drilling safer. This agreement was finalized in August 2017, and the court signed off on it.

This agreement improved conditions along the construction route and gave residents more of a voice in the process. But Sunoco decided it did not want to follow the agreement, and DEP allowed it to backslide. As a result, a series of drilling fluid spills that should not have happened polluted the pipeline route. DEP assured the Council that it

would tighten up the procedures, but on February 8, 2018, it entered into an agreement with Sunoco that reversed some of the environmental protections the Council had won in August. DEP’s new agreement with Sunoco breached the Council’s agreement and violated the trust of the public, which had been relying on these protections from Sunoco’s shoddy HDD practices.

The Council’s lawyers took Sunoco and DEP to court at the end of February to restore these protections. As of the time of this writing, those cases have not yet been resolved.

Meanwhile, the Council’s legal team is forging ahead on three other Mariner East cases challenging the construction-related permits,

an air pollution permit, and Sunoco’s illegal use of eminent domain to take private property to build the pipelines. In February, the Council argued before an appeals court in Pittsburgh that Sunoco’s attempt to throw out the eminent domain challenge was rightfully denied last year. Trial is set for April in the air permit appeal.

Every day, the Council’s lawyers are hard at work fighting to ensure that the environment and public health are put first. With your support, we all win.

For any questions, please reach out to Senior Litigation Attorney Alex Bomstein at [✉ abomstein@cleanair.org](mailto:abomstein@cleanair.org) or call 215-567-4004 x118.



The path of the Mariner East 2 Pipeline



© REUTERS / Charles Mostoller

## Clean Air Council Takes Fight to Washington

In November 2017, Clean Air Council, represented by pro bono counsel at Hausfeld, a leading global law firm, filed a lawsuit against the Trump administration to stop its radical war on science. Specifically, the Council brought claims to prevent the federal government from rolling back policies, programs, laws, rules, and regulations previously in place to address and ameliorate climate change and its consequences. This litigation focuses on the federal government’s knowledge (dating back over fifty years) that climate change presents a clear and present danger to life and represents an urgent and potentially irreversible threat to the planet.

The Council filed this lawsuit because, even on the campaign trail, Donald Trump openly boasted about his ignorance and ideological disdain for climate science. Now in office, his

administration has consistently relied on junk science to implement reckless climate change policies in the face of an indisputable U.S. and international scientific consensus. It is the government’s responsibility to protect the lives and welfare of its citizens and the life-sustaining resources they depend on. The administration’s active hostility to environmental protections and pandering to the oil and gas industry are increasing U.S. contributions to climate change, thereby increasing the frequency and intensity of its life-threatening effects and violating the constitutional due process rights of all U.S. citizens.

The Council is not seeking any damages in this lawsuit. Instead, the Council is seeking a declaratory judgment from the court to officially affirm Americans’ constitutional rights and prevent the U.S. government from arbitrarily rolling back baseline minimum protections

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already in place. The case has been assigned to a federal trial judge of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania (right here in Philadelphia). The Council has moved to begin discovery as quickly as possible, and we anticipate a response from the Department of Justice in early March 2018.

For more information on this landmark case, please contact Executive Director and Chief Counsel Joe Minott at [✉ joe\\_minott@cleanair.org](mailto:joe_minott@cleanair.org) or Staff Attorney Robert Routh at [✉ routh@cleanair.org](mailto:routh@cleanair.org).

## Love to Ride National Bike Challenge: May 2018

This past fall, Clean Air Council launched the first Love to Ride Challenge in Philadelphia, which featured 60 organizations and almost 600 participants. Love to Ride is an international bike challenge company with a different spin on the typical model of earning points for racking up as many miles as possible. Sure, you get points for riding your bike a lot, but there is a larger focus on getting new riders involved, on being a new rider, and simply the number of days you ride. (Just think about all the commuting points you can earn!) That type of mode shift is exactly what Clean Air Council’s sustainable transportation team likes to see.

Clean Air Council is teaming up with Love to Ride again in 2018 with the main focus being a local workplace competition in September. In May,

however, riders and teams can sign up for the National Bike Challenge through Love to Ride. They will automatically be signed up for the September challenge, too.

The May challenge consists of teams made of up to eight riders. Anyone can be part of your team-colleagues, friends, family, etc. Teams earn points based on riding and encouraging others to ride and compete for prizes throughout the month.

Register at [LoveToRide.net/Philly](http://LoveToRide.net/Philly) and have fun this May while gearing up for the big event with your workplace in September!

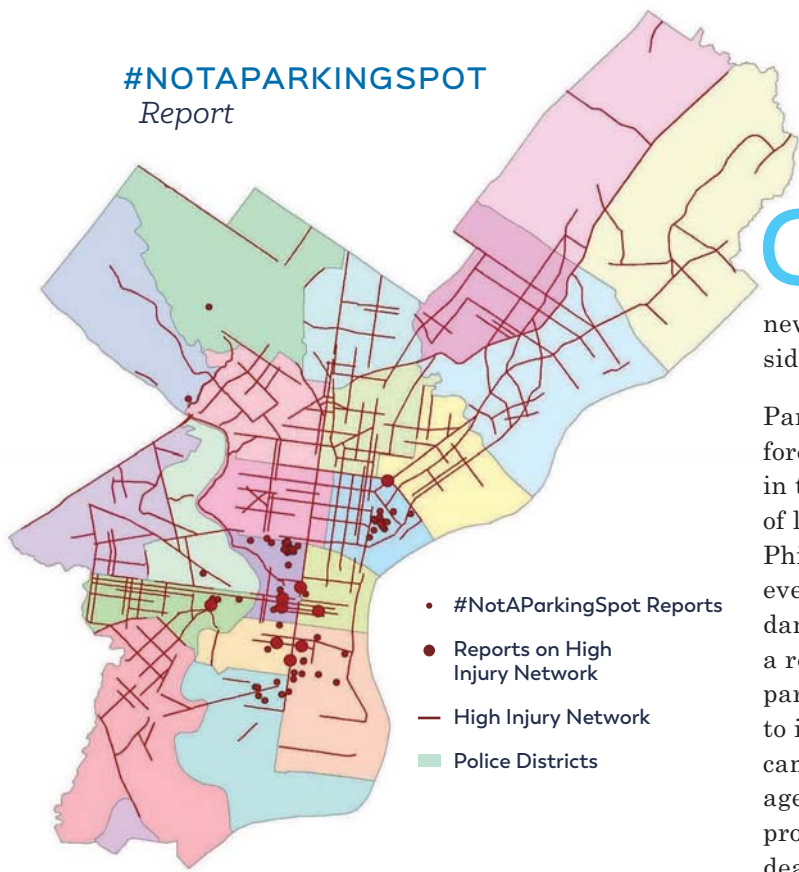
Be sure to use [GoPhillyGo.org](http://GoPhillyGo.org) to plan your trip and discover new places to ride.



For any questions, please reach out to Kamali Alloway at [✉ kalloway@cleanair.org](mailto:kalloway@cleanair.org) or call 215.567.4004 ext. 131.



#NOTAPARKINGSPOT  
Report



# #NOTAPARKINGSPOT

Clean Air Council’s Feet First Philly (FFP), Philadelphia’s pedestrian advocacy group, has taken on an exciting new campaign to ensure cleared crosswalks and sidewalks for pedestrians.

Parking illegally on sidewalks and in crosswalks forces pedestrians into dangerous situations in traffic and can tragically result in loss of life. #NotAParkingSpot’s goal is to make Philadelphia’s streets safe and accessible for everyone by crowdsourcing reports where dangerous, illegal parking is happening, keeping a record of these locations, and working with the parking authority and relevant police districts to increase education and enforcement. The campaign aims to alert the relevant enforcement agencies and keep the issue of illegal parking prominently in the public eye so that pedestrian deaths and injuries can be prevented.

### HOW THIS CAMPAIGN WORKS:

- 1 Submit a photo and location to @FeetFirstPhilly and #NotAParkingSpot on Twitter and/or Instagram. Or email the photo and location to notaparkingspotphila@gmail.com, and Feet First Philly will anonymously post your report on FFP’s social media accounts.
- 2 FFP retweets or posts original content with the correct police district and parking authority tagged along with the location. FFP engages with any follow-up those two agencies may have. FFP also includes a comment about why this illegal parking is dangerous to pedestrians.
- 3 FFP keeps a record of the location, type of violation, a link to the Twitter exchange, and other relevant info so that it can periodically look at trends. Identifying information is kept internally.

For any questions, please reach out to [notaparkingspotphila@gmail.com](mailto:notaparkingspotphila@gmail.com)

### CLEAN AIR COUNCIL AND FEET FIRST PHILLY NEED YOUR HELP.

Let FFP know when you see this behavior, so it can monitor where this problem is occurring in Philadelphia and do something about it! Tag @FeetFirstPhilly and #NotAParkingSpot on Instagram and Twitter, or [✉ notaparkingspotphila@gmail.com](mailto:notaparkingspotphila@gmail.com) to submit your reports.

## Council, Neighborhoods, and Citizen Science

Work in low income neighborhoods is a top priority for the Council. The Council’s latest air monitoring campaign, funded by the Aetna Foundation, shines new light on local air pollution sources in the North Philadelphia neighborhood of Kensington. The Council’s two engineers are building personal air monitors to be distributed to residents living near scrap yards, construction sites and other industrial areas in North Philadelphia.

The Council continues to support community advocacy in North Philadelphia to ensure that all residents have a say on the impacts of pollution in their neighborhoods. Working with residents the Council is taking the fight for clean air to the Philadelphia Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) to push for decisions requiring healthy development and to prevent dangerous facilities from being sited too close to schools and homes.

The Council is extremely proud to be included in a recent publication from the Philadelphia Planning Commission on “Scrap Yards and Auto Wrecking.”

Many scrapyards in North and Southwest Philadelphia were formerly home to coal yards and had direct access to rail lines. The industrial zoning of scrap yards adjacent to both residences and rail lines largely remains despite changes in land usage. The Council, supporting community groups in Southwest Philadelphia, successfully petitioned the ZBA to prevent 6719 Upland St, a residential neighborhood, from becoming an autowork operation.

Stationary and mobile particulate monitors are the latest tools for citizens concerned with local air pollutants to determine for themselves what pollution levels are in their neighborhood. The vast majority of scrap yards and other local industry do not have air permits. So the Council’s organizer has been working with community members to report emissions and odors crossing beyond a facility’s property line to Air Management Services (Philadelphia Health Department) with one simple phone call.

Contractors are legally required to control dust during demolition and construction. Clean Air



An air filter built by the Council’s engineers

Council is committed to monitoring construction sites in areas like Kensington where the ground is likely contaminated with heavy metals. Although no air quality regulations exist for indoor air, the Council also seeks to assist renters struggling with indoor mold. The Council held air monitoring workshops at McPherson Library as well as the HACE headquarters in North Philadelphia and plans at least six more over the next two years.

For more information on the Council’s work in low income neighborhoods in Philadelphia, please contact Advocacy Coordinator Russell Zerbo at 215.567.4004 x130 or [✉ rzerbo@cleanair.org](mailto:rzerbo@cleanair.org) for more information.

## Staff Profile: OLIVIA ORTIZ



Olivia Ortiz joined the Council as Transportation Outreach Coordinator in September 2017. In addition to other sustainable transportation work, they promote and build relationships for GoPhillyGo.org, the Council’s multimodal trip planning website. Most recently, Olivia has been meeting with environmental centers throughout the Delaware River watershed to determine how easy it is to visit them by bike.

Do you have a favorite springtime destination accessible by foot, bike, and/or public transportation? Let Olivia know, and you may see it profiled on GoPhillyGo!

In previous lives, Olivia worked with recreation centers in Philadelphia and vegetable gardens in Swarthmore. Outside work, Olivia is known as an avid cookie-maker and cheese-eater. Olivia can be seen biking through Philadelphia, collaging paper, and doting on their houseplants.

### TO OUR READERS,

Clean Air Council has a policy that everyone associated with the Clean Air Council picks the pronoun that they wish to use in connection with their identity.

## staying social @cleanaircouncil

### OTHER COUNCIL PROGRAMS TO KEEP UP WITH ONLINE

#### FACEBOOK

DIRTY ENERGY:  
[/protectRchildren](#)

SUSTAINABLE  
TRANSPORTATION  
[@CleanerCommute](#)  
[@FeetFirstPhilly](#)  
[@GoPhillyGo](#)

[/CLEANAIRCOUNCIL](#)

EVENTS:  
[/DineOutfortheEnvironment](#)  
[/GreenFestPhilly](#)  
[/RunforCleanAir](#)

#### TWITTER

DIRTY ENERGY:  
[@ISeeSMokePA](#)

SUSTAINABLE  
TRANSPORTATION  
[@CleanerCommute](#)  
[@FeetFirstPhilly](#)  
[@GoPhillyGo](#)

[@CLEANAIRCOUNCIL](#)

EVENTS:  
[@GreenFestPhilly](#)  
[@RunforCleanAir](#)

#### INSTAGRAM

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[@ISeeSMokePA](#)

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TRANSPORTATION  
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# LEGAL VICTORY FUND

Clean Air Council is fortunate to have a group of six incredibly talented lawyers who work overtime in the name of public health, a healthy environment and clean air for you and me. These lawyers are involved in over 40 cases at the moment and as of the time of writing this article just filed two new lawsuits against a major fracking company. The Council typically only takes on cases within the borders of Pennsylvania but has increasingly found that we need to be involved on the national stage as well. These increasingly prominent cases require an exponentially higher level of work and is part of the reason why the Council founded our Legal Victory Fund last year. Our lawyers are beginning to exceed the grant-based funding that is accessible to the Council at the moment and so I wanted to remind you that when you give to the Council either online or through the mail, you can designate your gift directly to the Legal Victory Fund to support our lawyers and their work.

For questions about the Legal Victory Fund as well as the Council's other fundraising initiatives, please reach out to Development Officer Carter Brown ✉ [cbrown@cleanair.org](mailto:cbrown@cleanair.org) or call 215-567-4004 ext 133.

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## CLEAN AIR COUNCIL LAUNCHES SOUTHWEST PA NEIGHBORS PROGRAM

Southwest Pennsylvania, particularly Allegheny County, continues to receive poor air quality grades. Much of the air pollution comes from legacy industries that have not done nearly enough to reduce their emissions. Residents in the region have had enough and have come to realize that neither industry nor government are doing enough to protect their health, welfare, and quality of life. They have reached out to groups like the Council and asked to be educated on how poor the air quality impacts their community and region, what the emissions from various sources near them are, and what mechanisms exist for residents to force government and industry to reduce their emissions.

Clean Air Council launched its *Southwest Pennsylvania Neighbors for Clean Air* initiative this spring. The initiative will establish at least 100 groups of 10 neighbors each throughout southwest Pennsylvania to educate new volunteer leaders about air pollution sources and build their capacity to address their concerns. The initiative works directly with community residents, most with no previous activism experience, to become leaders in their communities and take ownership of the air quality issues affecting their lives. The Council is planning an official kick-off rally in Pittsburgh on April 12th to raise awareness about the effort and recruit additional volunteers.

The work has already started. The Council is already recruiting and training civic, faith, community, and business leaders in Allegheny, Beaver, Washington, and Butler Counties to educate communities and mobilize residents to take action and form their own groups. These groups are a powerful way to inform, strategize, and take specific actions to force

industry and government to address community concerns. Groups meet once a month or more. They build relationships, become experts on local pollution sources, and advance local and regional campaigns for air quality improvements. The Council's southwest Pennsylvania organizer trains group leaders to facilitate meetings and provides ongoing guidance, support, and training to ensure leaders have all necessary resources and are comfortable in their role. Over 50 community leaders have been trained so far.

Initial focus areas for *Southwest Pennsylvania Neighbors for Clean Air* include Clairton, Braddock, and Natrona Heights. These communities host major air pollution sources including Clairton Coke Works, Edgar Thomson steel production facility, and Allegheny Technology Inc.'s metal rolling facility. The Council will assist local groups in persuading companies operating these facilities to use better technologies and work practices or demand that government order them to. The Council's organizer will also work with groups in Allegheny County to advocate for the Allegheny County Health Department to adopt stronger regulations on major air pollution sources. The Council will equip groups located outside of Pittsburgh with the skills to work with their local elected officials to pass laws to limit the impact of fracking, pipelines, and other related industrial facilities.

Throughout this year, the Council's organizer will continue building new groups and increasing their capacity to hold companies and local governments accountable.

For any questions, please reach out to Community Outreach Director Matt Walker at ✉ [mwalker@cleanair.org](mailto:mwalker@cleanair.org) or call 215-567-4004 ext. 121

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For over five decades, members of Clean Air Council have made a difference in Pennsylvania and Delaware, helping everyone to breathe a little easier. Members receive quarterly issues of Fresh Air, action alerts, invitations to special events and the annual 5K Run. Please send your comments to Joe Minott, Executive Director and Chief Counsel.

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