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The Solvent Finishers Superfund Site has left toxic waste from the use of solvents during the manufacturing of artificial leather and plastics in within my Jericho community. This superfund site most greatly impacts low-income and POCs. Wiith, the area it resides in being in the 80-90th percentile of people of color and 70-80th percentile of low-income, its clear that this site disproportionately affects vulnerable individuals. This is all happening just a few minutes away from where I live and across the street from the houses of some of my friends. Despite the drastic impacts of this issue, the state government only proposed a cleanup remedy in 2016, with no actual action taken since then. Its clear that the government does not see this issue as a priority and it's up to our community to solve this issue. If the solution were up to me, I would first try to rally for funding. The government has completed soil testing, so the main barrier to addressing this issue is finding adequate funding. Creating a petition for the community to sign asking for funds from the government and citing the injustice that has taken place could be key in getting the ball rolling for a complete cleanup. Beyond this, I think that educating the public is also key in addressing this issue. The presence of the superfund site is largely unknown by the public, so spreading social media posts and news about the site could fix this. Overall, it is pertinent to empower vulnerable communities to be able to handle issues such as these and educate the public about the scale and lasting effects of superfund sites.

Instagram Posts:



The image is a screenshot of an Instagram post. At the top left, there is a profile picture of a globe and the username 'a\_sustainable\_tomorrow' followed by '· 15s'. At the top right, there are three dots. The main content is a yellow graphic with black and red text. On the left, the words 'BEWARE TOXIC WASTE' are stacked vertically in large, bold, black, sans-serif font. To the right of this text is a large, stylized black biohazard symbol. Below the biohazard symbol, the words 'NEEDS CHANGE' are written in a large, bold, red, sans-serif font. At the bottom left of the graphic is a small black circle with a white person icon. At the bottom right of the graphic is the text '@A\_SUSTAINABLE\_TOMORROW'. Below the graphic, there are icons for heart, comment, share, and bookmark. The caption text is as follows:

**a\_sustainable\_tomorrow** Climate injustice affects us more closely than we think. In my community of Jericho, the Solvent Finishers Superfund Site has left toxic waste abandoned near residential areas. Moreover, the site disproportionately affects low-income individuals and POCs, which the community is in the 70-80th and 80-90th percentiles, respectively. With little assistance from the state government, I urge for community members and leaders to petition for funds to cleanup the site and share this post to educate others about this issue. We need change, so what will you do about it? #pgc2023 #climatejustice @turninggreenorg @drbronner @captainplanetfdn @friends\_earth @epagov



a\_sustainable\_tomorrow · 41s



# SUPERFUND PROXIMITY

- **Hazardous waste** sites are abandoned near local communities
- **Low-income** areas are more vulnerable to contamination
- ◀ • **People of color** are disproportionately affected by superfund sites
- **Damages environment** permanently without large-scale intervention

## WHAT WILL YOU DO?



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