

Summary of Community C8 Study (lhwc8study.org)
Warren High School Auditorium, August 15, 2005

- Funding: Study was funded by the National Institute of Health Environmental Justice Grant. There was no funding from any business group or legal group.
- Collaborators in study: Dr. Edward Emmett (University of Pennsylvania), Dr. Hong Zhang (Grand Central Family Medicine), David Freeman and Ellen Mumma (Decatur Community Association) and Community Advisory Committee
- Volunteers in study completed questionnaires, C8 and other blood tests.

Median C8 levels in Little Hocking Water Area residents vs. other groups	
U.S. general population	5 parts per billion (ppb)
Little Hocking water area	340 ppb
Washington works production workers	490 ppb
Other production workers	Approximately 5000 ppb
Belpre residents	298 ppb
Little Hocking residents	327 ppb
Cutler residents	316 ppb
Vincent residents	369 ppb

- In those without substantial exposure on the job, C8 levels were highest in children less than 6 years and individuals older than 60 years.
- The major source of C8 exposure in residents is the water and not the air.
- The lowest C8 median values in the study participants are among those who use only bottled, cistern or spring water. Highest levels are among those who drink only water from the Little Hocking water system.
- Individuals who drank Little Hocking water and used carbon water filters had significantly lower C8 blood levels, but not as low as spring/bottled water users.
- C8 values in residents who drink only well water vary greatly. In cases where the amount of C8 in the well water was known, the blood C8 depended on the level of C8 in the well water.
- The level of C8 in the drinking water seems to concentrate (or magnify) in the blood. In many cases the concentration factor was about 100 times but it could be higher or lower.
- People who eat local fruits and vegetables have higher C8 levels than those who do not. It is unsure if this is due to C8 in the food, C8 in the water used for cooking and cleaning the produce, different diet and drinking habits in these people, or some other explanation.
- People with high C8 levels did not have high levels of any other blood tests (such as cholesterol, cbc, liver, kidney or thyroid tests) or a medical history of thyroid or liver disease.
- The rate of cancer in Washington County, reported by the Ohio Department of Health, is no higher than any other county in the state.
- Recommendations:
 - Removal of C8 from Little Hocking water system (currently beginning).
 - Monitor C8 emissions from Washington Works
 - Consider alternate drinking source if your water contains C8
 - If you use carbon water filters, use filter effective against "trihalomethanes."
 - The so-called "safe level" of C8 of 150 ppb may need revised.
- Future: Repeat blood levels and questionnaires in 10-12 months
- Information on Class Action Suit C8 Health Project available at www.c8healthproject.com or 1-800- 605-6850.