



Empowering People to Change Our Planet

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Prosecuting Attorneys to Make Announcements, Provide History & Updates on Recent Actions Taken
Against Tonawanda Coke at WNY's Citizen Science Conference & Community Meeting
Many Speakers and Exhibitors to Show Off Their Environmental Monitoring Tools for Residents**

TOWN OF TONAWANDA, NY: An open to the public, free conference and meeting will take place on Saturday, September 19th at 169 Sheridan-Parkside Drive, Tonawanda, NY from 9:30am-5pm. The event is co-hosted by local grassroots community group, Citizen Science Community Resources (CSCR), and international organization, Global Community Monitor (GCM), known for the recent 60-minute Anderson Cooper segment on Lumber Liquidators. Many speakers are scheduled to present including and featuring Assistant U.S. Attorney Aaron Mango and EPA's regional counsel, Erick Ihlenburg, for the federal and civil cases respectively against Tonawanda Coke and Mark Kamholz, Tonawanda Coke's environmental manager. The duo will provide attendees with case history, make announcements, and provide updates pertaining to the actions taken against the company that was recently referred to as an "environmental outlaw" by Judith Enck, EPA's region 2 administrator.

Jackie James Creedon, CSCR's director, emphasizes the significance of the government actions and the upcoming meeting, "EPA, NYS DEC and DOJ enforcement actions taken against Tonawanda Coke Corp. are a victory for WNY and our (Tonawanda) community. Finally, after 10 years of diligent work between community members and government agencies we can all breath a sigh of relief. Our air is cleaner and justice has been served. We have certainly sent a strong message: citizen science and residents working together with the system can work and has worked."

The conference and meeting highlight this historical accomplishment by also featuring many exhibitors demonstrating easy to use environmental monitoring tools to test the air, soil, and water. In keeping with the spirit of the original Clean Air Coalition of WNY's Tonawanda Bucket Brigade and GCM's international work, Jessica Hendricks, GCM's program director states, *"This conference will offer residents an opportunity to learn about and try out many easy to use tools to test the environment including a portable instrument to measure heavy metals in soil. Folks can bring a pint size bag full of their soil and have it tested for free!"*

Lastly, Jackie James Creedon adds, *"Although we have accomplished much as a community, this story has not ended and our group still has two concerns. Tonawanda Coke continues to operate and many in Tonawanda and WNY including myself, are not certain they can be trusted. How can we be assured we are safe? Additionally, what impact has the company's pollution had in our environment and on our people? Can we and will we be compensated? This upcoming meeting and conference will address these questions and we intend to have many more answers after this event."*

For more information and registration: www.csresources.org, info@csresources.org, or call 716-873-6191

Bus Tour to Tonawanda and Love Canal (registration required): Friday, Sept. 18th 3:45-9 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 19th, Coffee, Breakfast and Exhibit opens at 9:30am, Speakers begin at 10 a.m.

Event closes at 5 p.m.

Citizen Science Community Resources (CSCR) is a grassroots organization in Western New York dedicated to science-based activism for winning environmental health and justice campaigns.

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