Community Democracy River
MONITOR YOUR AIR, WATER, AND NEIGHBORHOOD'S ENVIRONMENT

Fair Shake®
Environmental Legal Services

Purple Air Monitors – Tips

- Use instruments, websites, and tools to learn and track how healthy your air, water, and the places you spend your time are now. This can help if it's harmed in the future to show what it was like before.
- Purple Air monitors can measure how much fine particulate matter (PM2.5) is in the air.

River point: Current – clarifying out roles and responsibilities for coalition members and partners is important to pull any Lever.

Strengths & Skills that can pull lever:
- Thinking & Strategy
- Doing & Executing

Decision-Making Power: Community

More information & the purple air map found at: https://map.purpleair.com

1. **Find the right location:**
   - ☐ Need wi-fi and power.
   - ☐ Dry location.
   - ☐ Not in direct sunlight.
   - ☐ Far from daily pollution spots (such as BBQ grills, AC units, car exhaust).
   - ☐ Mount about head-height.
   - ☐ If using more than one air monitor, try to create a circle with different monitors around the item you want to monitor.
   - ☐ Keep wind direction in mind – you will pick up more pollution with how the wind is blowing. You can find common wind flow directions at:
     - Wind Rose - https://mrcc.purdue.edu/CLIMATE/
     - Windy.app - https://windy.app/

2. **Maintenance**:
   - ☐ Assign someone to check on them and make any adjustments as needed. (We recommend weekly!)

3. **Look for patterns:**
   - ☐ Document the following during orange or red:
     - Weather (temperature & conditions)
     - Any smells
     - Anything you can see in the air
     - Anything you can see that is happening that could cause (could use a drone, photos, or videos to capture).
   - ☐ Focus on the 6-hour averages and 24-hour averages
   - ☐ Compare your air to current baseline standards
     - EPA - 24-hour level of $PM_{2.5}$ should not exceed 35 $\mu g/m^3$
     - World Health Organization – 24-hour level of PM2.5 should not exceed 15 $\mu g/m^3$

4. **Report environmental concerns to the appropriate agency**: more info at https://www.fairshake-els.org/community-resources-river-lever-resources-tools