

**Health data:** Numerous studies have demonstrated the link between diesel exhaust and asthma. In 1995, the asthma rate for the area was approximately 7.5 times the national rate and 4 times the City rate. In addition, the area has a higher rate of hospitalizations for respiratory disease. In 1992, the discharge rate for skin and breast cancer in the community was approximately 7% while the citywide rate was 4%.

### **Waste Transfer Stations**

The South Bronx is home to a disproportionate amount of the City's sanitation facilities. There are 35 known facilities in Bronx Community Boards 1, 2 and 9, all of which are adjacent to the Bronx River. In Community Board 2 alone, there are 23 Waste Transfer Stations, which includes legal and illegal waste transfer stations as well as recyclers. Nine of the facilities process putrescible waste, arguably the most burdensome due to odor.

### **DEC Sludge Treatment Plant**

Located along the southern shore of Hunts Point, the Department of Environmental Protection's Sewage Treatment Plant processes all of the Bronx's sewage. It is unconfirmed, but assumed that some of Manhattan's sewage goes there as well. This already large facility is currently undergoing negotiations to expand. Some of the sewage is discharged into the water causing not only detrimental damage to the hydro-ecosystems, but on the public health of the residents due to the commonality of swimming and subsistence fishing in the water.

### **NYOFCO Sludge**

The majority of the "treated" sludge however is sent to the *New York Organic Fertilizer Company* (NYOFCO), located nearby, who makes it into fertilizer. The plant is extremely odorous and a major burden on the community. Over 70% of NYC's sludge gets processed through NYOFCO. The fertilizer they produce is arguably highly toxic, due to the assumption that the sewage treatment facility does not treat the waste to the maximum extent possible. Although the sewage is transported to the treatment plant through underground sewers, the treated product is trucked to NYOFCO before being railed out from the Oak Point Rail Yard.

### **Combined Sewer Overflow**

There are 5 combined sewer overflow areas directly north of Hunts Point and south of the Bronx Zoo.

### **Oak Point Rail Yard (is this still true?)**

Supposedly rail companies are exempt from environmental laws and the rail yard's actions are not taken to be the responsibility of any enforcing agency. All of the Bronx's residential garbage goes to the Republic site in CB1, just outside Hunts Point's boundaries, where it is put into containers and sent (by truck?) to the Rail Yard. The

Harlem River Rail Yard, which is also nearby, takes Waste Management's garbage but lately, due to lack of space, some of it is being railed out from Oak Park.

**Truck Traffic: need numbers – ask Christine**

**EPA Permits**

Zip Code 10472

40 Hazardous Waste Handlers

35 Air Releases Reported

7 Biennial Reporting System Reporters

Zip Code 10473

33 Hazardous Waste Handlers

27 Air Releases Reported

6 Biennial Reporting System Reporters

Zip Code 10474

2 Water Discharge Permits

8 Toxic Release Permits

85 Hazardous Waste Handlers

45 Air Releases Reported

7 Biennial Reporting System Reporters

*Issues still to be researched*