Many children in Philadelphia suffer from asthma and other breathing problems. Asthma rates are two to three times higher in Philadelphia than Pennsylvania. Poor outdoor air quality makes children sick with asthma and other conditions.
ATTENTION PARENTS & TEACHERS

Pollutants from auto exhaust, power plants, oil refineries and airport fumes combine to cause poor outdoor air quality.

What can you do?
The EPA tests air all the time and has created alerts so you can access this information through the internet or have it sent to your smartphone. Sign up to receive air quality alerts at www.AirQualityPartnership.org or go to www.airnow.gov to download an app for your smartphone.

How to use the Air Quality Index
If the Air Quality Index is orange or red, sensitive groups like children, elderly, and people with lung problems should avoid outdoor activities in the afternoon.

GREEN = good air quality
YELLOW = moderate
ORANGE = air quality is unhealthy for sensitive groups; including older adults
RED = air quality is unhealthy for everyone

How does asthma affect our children?
Asthma can cause missed school days, missed outdoor play, missed social interactions, may lower self esteem, or could even cause death.

How does asthma affect parents and teachers?
Increases parents medical costs, parents miss work, and children fall behind on school work which may require parental/teacher assistance.

How can you tell when the air quality is poor?
Poor air quality is not always easy to see. Sunny and clear days could still have high levels of invisible pollutants such as ozone and fine particulates.