Thank you for joining the webinar.

* We will begin shortly. *
Housekeeping

- If you have problems with the webinar audio, you can join by phone at 1-646-558-8656; Webinar ID: 956 4979 3075
- All participants will be muted during the webinar.
- If you have questions during the presentation, please type them into the Q&A box located at the bottom of your screen. Your questions will be visible to the moderator and presenters only.
- The webinar is being recorded and will be shared after the event.
- Members of the press may be joining today’s webinar.
What is CPR?

- **Vision:** CPR is a “think-and-do tank” helping to build thriving communities on a resilient planet.

- **Mission:** CPR pursues a strategic agenda that emphasizes education, advocacy, and community collaboration.

- CPR operates with a network of 60+ Member Scholars who are leaders in various legal academic fields, and a professional staff of policy analysts, communication experts, and others.

- We work together on a variety of programs—national and regional—all dedicated to the idea that government safeguards and other regulations are a key to social justice and planetary health.
Presenters

Jordan Macha, Executive Director and Waterkeeper, Bayou City Waterkeeper

Victor Flatt, Professor, University of Houston Law Center

Jamie Brunkow, Senior Advocacy Manager and James Riverkeeper, James River Association

David Flores, Senior Policy Analyst, Center for Progressive Reform
2019 Toxic Floodwaters Report: Threat of Climate-Driven Chemical Disaster in the James River Watershed

- Geography:
  - James Watershed
  - CDC SOVI
- Sites:
  - EPA FRS
  - DEQ VEGIS
- Exposures:
  - NOAA SLOSH
  - NOAA SLR
  - FEMA flood-zones
Flood-Exposed Hazardous Chemical Facilities in Census Tracts Scoring in the Highest Quartile Nationally for Social Vulnerability Located in the James River Watershed

1,095 Flood-Exposed Facilities

- Flood Exposed Facility
Flood-Exposed Hazardous Chemical Facilities in Census Tracts Scoring in the Highest Quartile Nationally for Social Vulnerability Located in Hampton Roads, Virginia

849 Flood-Exposed Facilities

- Flood Exposed Facility
Lower Galveston Bay Watershed

- Comprised of 10 Counties
- Hosts Third Largest County in U.S.
- Hosts Fourth Largest City in U.S.
- Largest Petrochemical Complex in U.S.
- Largest Petrochemical Manufacturing in the World (such as, synthetic rubber, fertilizer, insecticide)
- Over 2500 Miles of Bayous, Streams, & Creeks
- 2 Major Rivers
- 2nd Most Productive Estuary in the U.S.
City of Houston & Harris County have very lax zoning laws, which allows industrial sites to be placed in residential areas and next to sensitive ecological areas.
In 2016, the Houston Chronicle reported that lower-income communities and communities of color are “most likely to feel the consequences of Houston’s long-running struggle with sewer overflows.” After federal and state regulars did not take these concerns seriously, we updated this analysis by looking at the City’s more recent data. By examining the City of Houston’s more recent data, Bayou City Waterkeeper’s fellow Naomi Walker, working with Dr. Lauren Ross, confirmed that these environmental injustices are still present and concluded that neither the sewer settlement nor planned Capital Improvement Projects account for these disparities.
River At Risk Campaign 2014

LEGEND
Threats to the river:
- Toxic Storage Sites
- Coal Ash Storage Sites
- Railroads

Hope for the river:
- Advocates
- James River & Tributaries
State lawmakers passed legislation that calls for the full removal of 28 million tons of coal ash from leaking ponds across the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
Questions?

Please type your questions in the Q&A box.
Thank you for joining us!

Upcoming CPR webinar: Toxic floodwaters and environmental justice, October 20, 2-3:15 pm ET

Please complete the survey on your screen after exiting!

For more from CPR, visit progressivereform.org or follow us at @CPRBlog.