

# Chesterfield drops to third in smokestack sweepstakes

By Mark Fausz

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Westmoreland County, ranked first, releasing more than double that of Chesterfield and Hopewell combined. Hopewell ranked the second highest polluter, primarily due to Honeywell.

Chesterfield's industry has cleaned up its act for the 2013 reporting year moving from the second most polluted jurisdiction in the state to number three.

Virginia industries reported, 868 million pounds of chemicals released to land, air and water; more than 10 percent over 2012. But overall the TRI is down since 2002.

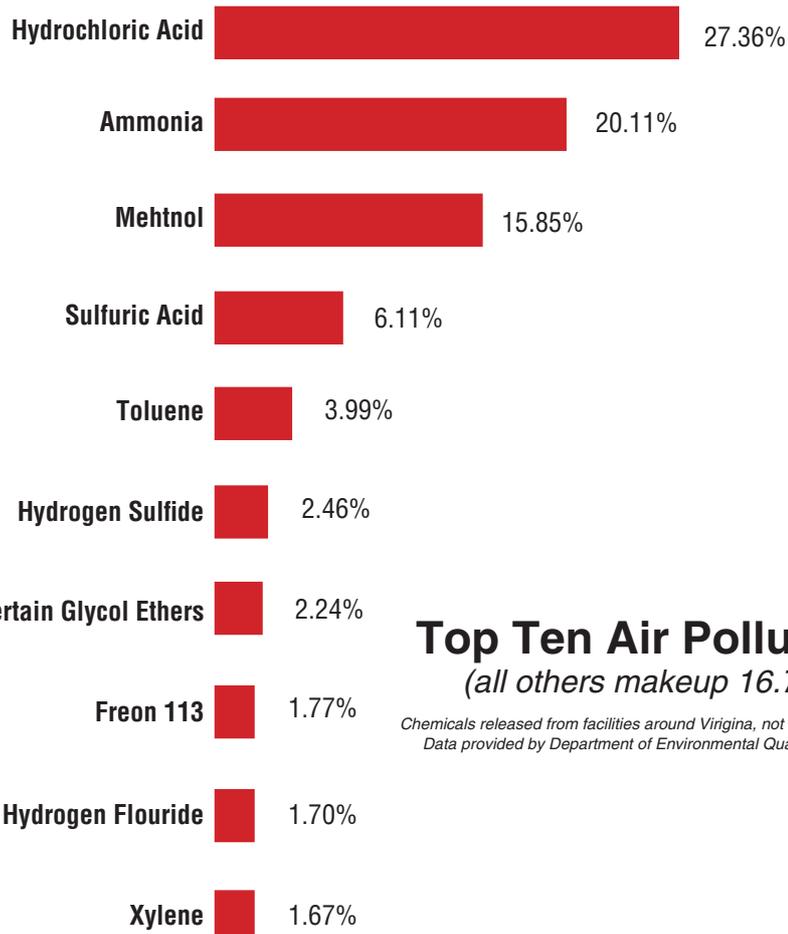
Hopewell reported 3.79 million pounds or a 10.50 percent increase, just slightly higher than Chesterfield's 3.63 million pounds, a 10.08 percent

increase. But when compared to 2011 the increase is significantly less, in part because of changes in how releases are calculated.

"Virginia's overall trend in releases of toxic chemicals continues to decline," DEQ Director David K. Paylor said. "The increases we see in this year's report indicate higher production at some chemical and electrical generating facilities in 2013. DEQ continues to work with industries across the state to find ways to reduce chemical releases."

Dominion Virginia Power has been installing new scrubbers over the last several years to bringing their TRI closer in line with DEQ standards.

The report shows an increase in releases to air and land. The increase



## Top Ten Air Pollutants (all others makeup 16.74%)

*Chemicals released from facilities around Virginia, not including vehicles. Data provided by Department of Environmental Quality TRI Report*

in air releases results mainly from emissions from paper and chemical manufacturing, while the increase in land releases are due mainly to releases from electric utilities.

Water pollution has decreased enough to bring the total of all pollutants down by .06 percent.

But as regulations increased and industries began to work toward improvement, efforts have begun to pay off.

The report also includes data about releases of a group of chemicals known as persistent bio-accumulative toxics. These chemicals remain in the environment for long periods of time and can build up in body tissue.

Releases of chemicals into the air statewide amounted to 20.7 million pounds, chemical releases into water about 11.7 million pounds and 3.7 million pounds was hauled to landfills.

## Third Thursday presents "All the RAGE"

By Mark Fausz

Want to take a sentimental journey? Travel over the rainbow? "All the RAGE" will take you there as the season opener of the Third Thursdays concert series on April 16 from 7 to 9 p.m..

The Chester Community Association (CCA) will host the "All the RAGE" (Richmond Area Geriatric Ensemble) on the Chester Village Green on Centre Street in Chester.

"All the RAGE," has been playing together for two years, and offers a unique lineup of tunes like you've not heard in a long time and the members are far from geriatric. One of the lead singers, Angie Brooks, is in her 30s.

The group consists of: vocalists and ukuleles, Angie Brooks and George Jacob; saxophone, Calvin Farmer; accordion and violin, Dewey Chester; bass, Bruce Swartz; guitar, John Ely; keyboard, Charlene Chester; drums and percussion, Bob Garrison.

The eight piece group offers a dis-

tinct sound that fits perfectly with the period songs they play. "Sentimental Journey," "Ain't She Sweat," "Makin' Whoppee" and "Summertime" take you back, or introduce you to, music that will have you toe tapping or swooning under the stars. The ensemble covers standards classic American popular tunes from the 20s, 30s, 40s and 50s.

"That's our core," Dewey Chester said. "But we're really beyond that. We do folk, like "Waltzing Matilda," light gospel and more modern tunes such as "This Train" and "Bound for Glory."

Ms. Brooks said, "We do some opera, like "Summertime" from Porgy and Bess.

"Angie knocks everyone's socks off when she does "Summertime," Mr. Chester said.

Brooks is also a yoga instructor and she combines the ukulele with the yoga instruction. For seniors she also used the ukulele to help with memory

issues.

"For memory care it's a form of therapy so it's the yoga, the movement plus the ukulele live music, and it's really turned out very well for them."

Some "All the RAGE" members started playing in high school but took some time off until getting back together in 2013.

They began playing coffee houses and later weddings, festivals, dining venues and class reunions.

Two members handle the vocals as well as play their part of a range of instruments including keyboard, acoustic guitar, double bass, tenor saxophone,



ALL THE RAGE

drums, violin, accordion, and ukulele. This unique blend makes for one heck of a good time.

Food and adult drinks will be offered by King's Korner BBQ and all proceeds will benefit the Chesterfield Twinning Association, a project of the CCA.