

# BREATHE PROJECT

The Air We Share

## MEDIA ALERT

Nov. 7, 2023

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### **We Refuse To Die: Ceremonial planting of an *Externality* carving above the Clairton Coke Works**



**Clairton, Pa.** – The media is invited to join a gathering on **Saturday, Nov. 11 from 1:00–2:30 p.m. in Clairton, Pa.** for [\*We Refuse To Die\*](#), a public ceremony and media event around the inaugural installation of an "*Externality*," hand-carved monument from a tree killed in climate-fueled wildfires in the Pacific Northwest.

**Where:**  
**Saturday, Nov. 11, 2023**  
**425 Shaw Ave., Clairton**

This will be the first of many carvings installed in Gulf South and Appalachian communities living alongside petrochemical and fossil fuel facilities. A second carving will be planted in the yard of a resident in East Palestine, Ohio, on the one-year anniversary of the chemical rail disaster. The resident witnessed the train on fire as it passed by her home.

The event will take place outdoors in the yard of a Clairton resident, overlooking the U.S. Steel Coke Works Plant—one of the worst sources of toxic and cancer-causing industrial air pollution in the state and country. The U.S. Steel Clairton Coke Works is one of the biggest reasons that Allegheny County has one of the highest levels of asthma in the country.

This is a ceremonial event and cultural program featuring libation and prayer, song, local speakers, the unveiling of the carving, words from the artists and West African drumming/dancing. We will also hear from the brave resident who has chosen to host this carving on their property in perpetuity.

[RSVP here](#) for updates about the event.

\* This event is a ceremony and cultural program, not a protest. All are welcome.

\* In keeping with the memorial nature of the event, guests are invited to wear white or black.

*[WE REFUSE TO DIE](#) is a series of events being staged by The Natural History Museum, a "traveling museum for the movement" led by artists and activists who created the carvings and the "We Refuse to Die Campaign." The campaign will travel across the country, a socially engaged artistic response to the ecological and public health harms of fossil fuel and petrochemical pollution.*