



Winds of Change Questions:

1. Describe what the air was like in some places in Michigan in 1965.

Michigan was a “pollution rainbow” – a landscape marked by black smoke spewing from power plants, yellow iron oxide fumes from foundries, huge red clouds from steel manufacturing facilities, and white plumes from cement kilns.

2. When and where did the first significant pollution in the world begin?

In Europe during the Industrial Revolution in the late 1700s.

3. What is the single largest contributor to air pollution worldwide? Give examples of sources.

Fossil fuel combustion from sources such as burning of oil, coal, and gasoline.

4. Which is the first Michigan county to adopt air pollution ordinances and where is it located?

Wayne County (Detroit area) in southeastern Michigan.

5. What helped to bring air pollution to the attention of lawmakers?

Letter writing by citizens about the problems, organization of air quality groups, and demonstrations at the State Capitol in Lansing.

6. When were the first air pollution rules adopted for the State of Michigan?

The first air pollution rules were adopted in 1967 (the Michigan Air Pollution Control Act was passed in 1965).

7. How do air pollution inspectors determine whether or not a pollution source is abiding by its permit?

They check to see if sources are properly using their air pollution equipment required by their permits and that they are keeping accurate records. Their own observations and use of equipment such as velocity meters and gas samplers help inspectors to detect air pollution.

8. Have Michigan's efforts to clean up the air produced results? Explain your answer.

Yes. Refer to “Consider these facts” in the reading.