

*Many mile markers have been reached since the journey began at Love Canal. A few of the most memorable victories for CHEJ and our allies on the journey, include:*

- Over 1,000 unsafe solid waste landfills have been shutdown by grassroots groups working with CHEJ.
- Before “transparency” and “good government” became the political buzzwords of the day, the movement, led by its mentoring group CHEJ, was instrumental in getting “right to know” laws passed at the state and federal levels in the mid-80s.
- McDonalds, the world’s most recognized fast food chain, announced in 1990 that it was getting rid of Styrofoam containers as a result of the “McToxics Campaign.”
- 2,600 medical waste incinerators were shut down, thus reducing dioxin air emissions by 77 percent between 1987 and 1985: 90 percent of this reduction is due to the efforts of the movement.
- The medical and cleaning industries are refocusing their thoughts into safe medical and cleaning principles and practices begun when CHEJ launched the *Healthcare Without Harm* and *Green Cleaning* campaigns.
- Three of the nation’s top retailers (Wal-Mart, Target & Sears/Kmart) as well as several other retail outlets, announced policies to begin phasing out a harmful chemical, PVC, from their products and packaging.
- The passage of federal legislation requiring the USEPA to write siting guidelines to prevent schools from being built on contaminated sites. Had such guidelines been in place decades ago, the 99<sup>th</sup> Street School would never have been built on top of the Love Canal landfill.
- BPA, a toxic chemical found in many baby bottles, Nalgene bottles, CD players, sunglasses, eyeglasses and countless other products, is on its way of being phased out and off of American shelves as the United States Congress has begun to ask questions about this chemical and Wal-Mart announced plans to remove BPA baby bottles from its shelves.

Each of these mile markers represents a shift in our country’s thinking. People no longer ask *what do we do to respond to harm*, they ask instead, *how do we prevent harm from happening?* This shift is the journey that began at Love Canal.