



CHEMISTRY WALK

Give the public a chemist's perspective of their community: a view of the art, architecture, history and environment. The Toronto has made this into a very successful annual program. It can be carried out through schools, science centres as easier access points to attract people initially.

What needs to be done:

- Designate a walk coordinator for the section
- Determine an area for the walk (probably about 2 km)
- Decide on stopping points (say 5 or 6) with some chemistry connection for the walk. Try to make these in a quiet place away from traffic, but with a good view of the place of interest
- Make a map of the walk showing stopping points
- Write a "blurb" for each stopping point to be used by walk leaders
- Advertise the walk (remember it is a fine weather activity!)
- Establish a date and time for the walk with interested parties

Possible focus points for stops on a city chemistry walk

- Local industries
 - Distillery
 - Fermentation
 - Distillation
 - Manufacture of glycol and acetone
 - Sugar factory
 - Destabilisation of colloids
 - Separation techniques
 - Polarimetry

Other businesses to look out for as suitable focus points

- Tanneries
- Paper makers
- Glass makers
- Potteries
- Food processors e.g. donut or pizza making (chemical engineering connections)
- Microbreweries
- Wine making stores
- Old pharmacies or herbal remedy stores
- Gas (old lamp)
- Water (site of first well)
- also possible

- Electricity
- Air conditioning
- Central heating
- Building materials:
 - Cement
 - Silos
 - CN Tower
 - Bridges
 - Limestone cycle
 - Bonding and structure
 - Exothermic reactions
 - Hydration reactions
 - e.g. Bricks made from local clay (discuss reasons for different colours)
 - Stone (Stonehouse distillery – Kingston limestone)
- Artwork
 - Curtain Wall mural (Alucobond, paint, attachment to wall etc.)
 - Distillery in the 19th century (featuring smokestacks)
 - Sculptures
- Different forms of iron and steel
 - Cast iron, e.g. Fountain
 - Facades of buildings
 - Wrought ironwork
- Redox
 - Galvanic corrosion (2 different metals)
 - Copper weathering (spire)
 - Rust (bridge)
- Natural history topics
 - coloured leaves in Fall
 - geological formations, weathering of rocks, etc.
 - soil pH and vegetation
 - Brownfields restoration

- Comparing the modern map with an old map (if you can find one) show how the area has changed with time.

Photos of the Toronto Local Section Chemistry Walk can be seen at
<http://picasaweb.google.com/lesliebarton71/ChemistryWalk#>