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| <p>Dairy Farm Owner</p> <p>You own a huge dairy farm. Water is pumped from the river. The cows are fed grain with antibiotics. The farm operation produces an enormous amount of concentrated animal waste that often contains antibiotics and antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Rain on the property washes manure into nearby streams which feed into the Bronx River.</p> | <p>Homeowner</p> <p>You own waterfront property along the Bronx River. You use only environmentally friendly cleaning products in your house. You are careful to recycle and you use your own compost on your garden. But you use lots of fertilizers and harsh chemicals (to kill those pesky weeds and grubs) to produce your prize lush, weed-free front lawn.</p> |
| <p>Riverfront Homeowner</p> <p>You live on the riverfront and have summer picnics on the river where you use lots of disposable food containers (Styrofoam and plastic cups and plates.) Although you discard these items in a riverfront garbage can, it is often overflowing and trash falls on the ground. Also, you have an old motor boat you use for fishing that has a leaky engine. The engine drips oil when running and emits a huge amount of smoke when you start it. But it's expensive to fix and still seems to work fine.</p> | <p>Developer</p> <p>You are a developer that builds riverfront condominiums. You use a lot of trucks to haul materials to the building site, and heavy machinery to clear the land and erect the homes. Construction debris is temporarily dumped in a back lot near a stream that feeds into the river. Some of your scraps overflow the bins and remain rusting on the ground for months or years. Wind carries other trash to the neighboring property and the river. When it rains, water flows down the hill flooding the property below because you cleared all the trees for the construction.</p> |
| <p>Mining Company</p> <p>Your copper mine is closed, but sulfuric acid continues to drain out due to the condition of the mine. Chemical agents formerly used in the mining process are seeping from the rock waste pile and a broken PVC discharge pipe into the ground and nearby stream. The state has issued violation orders and fines, but you have yet to clean up your site.</p> | <p>Chemical Plant Owner</p> <p>You manage an old chemical plant. The refining process you use creates sludge, a type of liquid industrial waste. A pipe carries this waste out of the plant and dumps it onto the land around the facility. The chemicals you produce are hauled out to suppliers by truck. The combined sewage pipe from the plant sometimes overflows with storm water and discharges raw sewage and factory waste directly into the river.</p> |
| <p>Commercial Carwash</p> <p>You own a carwash just off the highway with a stream that runs down to the river. The water used to hose down the vehicles runs off the property into the stream. You use chemical cleaners that are harmful to the environment but keep your customers happy. You empty the ashtrays from cars into bins that get dumped behind your property when full.</p> | <p>Dog Owner</p> <p>You live in an apartment near the Bronx River. You like to take your dogs for walks on trails near the river. You know that you should pick up after the dogs when he poops but you don't <i>want</i> to – yuck! None of the other dog owners on the trails do it so why should you? Sometimes you remember to bring the plastic bags from your newspapers. Unfortunately there are no garbage cans so you leave the plastic bags full of poop on the side of the trails along with an occasional coffee cup.</p> |

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| <p>Plastic Manufacturing Company Owner</p> <p>You own a plastic squeeze bottle manufacturing company located on the Bronx River. Every day your company uses 400,000 gallons of clean water from the river to power the factory and produce the condiment containers. After the water is used, the dirty water containing toxins is disposed of from the factory through a pipe back into the river. Your product is made from polyvinyl chloride, and your smoke stacks release thousands of pounds of toxins into the air. Leftover plastic fragments are discarded in huge loosely covered bins. In strong winds, thousands of fragments are carried to the nearby waterways.</p> | <p>Marina Owner</p> <p>You own a marina on the water, and rent slips to hundreds of private boat owners. You and your customers love being on the water, but don't realize your role in polluting it! Boat maintenance uses solvents, paints and oil that seep into the ground or the water. Discharge of sewage from boats and storm water runoff from your parking lot flow right into the river. You built a winterized boat storage facility right on the river bank. Here boats are cleaned and maintained but the water used runs directly down into the river.</p> |
| <p>Nail Salon</p> <p>You run a local nail salon that uses lots of chemicals (solvents & polishes.) Waste materials and chemicals are tossed into the garbage out back which gets removed weekly. The dirty water from cleaning equipment is poured out the back door onto the parking lot. You run a washing machine several times a day to bleach towels. The outflow pipe containing the dirty water drains into the ground outside the salon, as do the dryers' vents which shoot out lint all day.</p> | <p>Restaurant Owner</p> <p>You own a fast food restaurant right off the highway. You dispose of the fryer oil in a large rusty metal dumpster behind your restaurant which has a small leak in the bottom but gets dumped into a tanker truck and carted off the property weekly. Food scraps from cooking and leftovers as well as food packaging gets dumped in the garbage and hauled off twice a week. The dumpster is often overflowing and attracts furry friends, so rat poison is placed around the area. Drivers use your bathrooms a lot and they are cleaned with harsh detergents. The dirty mop water is poured out in the parking lot. The parking lot storm drain flows to the river.</p> |
| <p>Eco-friendly Boat Maker</p> <p>Your organization makes wooden boats with assistance from local teenagers. You use only re-claimed or sustainably harvested wood, and eco-poxy (non-toxic glue) and more environmentally friendly chemicals. Your students test the local waters and learn about toxins in the environment.</p> | <p>Organic Tree Farm</p> <p>Your farm plants trees to sell to commercial landscapers. Your trees are all species native to your area, and don't need special watering. Although they are watered in especially hot weather, it is with "harvested" rain water, caught in barrels. Your trucks all run on bio-diesel, and your buildings are heated with environmentally friendly systems.</p> |
| <p>Auto Repair Shop</p> <p>Your shop has been in the family for many years, but you've experienced some hard times recently, and don't have the money for repairs. You don't recycle car batteries, or dispose of used-oil properly as the law requires. The materials end up in in a dumpster with gas-covered rags, and other waste. Rainwater runs through the dumpster depositing toxin chemicals on the ground around it.</p> | <p>Small Business Owner</p> <p>You own a furniture repair business in the Bronx. You use a lot of toxic (harmful) chemicals. You cannot afford to pay a hazardous waste disposal company to take them away so you get rid of the chemicals by pouring them out on the ground behind your store into a storm drain.</p> |