

**IN-20-3021**

**MARTINSVILLE**  
CITY OF  
**MINERAL WATER**

# How to **SURVIVE** the Future

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## **EPISODE 4: MARTINSVILLE**

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A SHOW ABOUT TODAY FROM AN IMAGINED TOMORROW

2023

# INFO

**Title:** Martinsville

**Episode Description:**

When his daughters were teenagers, Chuck and his family lived close to downtown Martinsville. That was also the time - they found out later - that the city's drinking water was most contaminated with toxic chemicals. Chuck's dreams are with his grandson now, an early-career jazz musician making a life in a city where things are starting to look up.

**Interviewee(s):** Chuck Thrawley

**Groups/Orgs mentioned:** EPA

**Episode Link:** [IndianaHumanities.org/future/](https://www.indianahumanities.org/future/)

**Other links:** <https://www.epa.gov/>

# QUOTES

- "We are just right now probably 75 yards away from the building where the source of the contamination and the large downtown plume that bedeviled this town for a number of years." – [0:10](#)
- "We are just now in 2031 beginning to get fairly clean vapor readings coming out of the ground." – [1:19](#)
- "We were never exactly sure whether living in the contamination area had anything to do with her medical problems." – [11:06](#)
- "It's a hard slog, sometimes, in organizing, and I have developed a real admiration for people who can lay the case out and get people to work together." – [13:26](#)
- "I'm actually feeling much better right now about Martinsville. You can feel it here today." – [17:43](#)

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What similarities and/or differences do you see with the case of contamination in Martinsville compared to other communities facing environmental crises?
- What would you do or how would you feel if you found out your water was contaminated with harmful chemicals?
- What are ways that people in the future could prevent these types of environmental crises?