Mining plays a predominate role in both the culture and economy of eastern Kentucky and the broader Appalachian region.

While mining has significantly shifted from subsurface to strip mining both the inhalation and environmental dangers remain.

In the American legal system bringing a lawsuit requires that a person be harmed; by the action being challenged, this creates difficulties for suits based on damage to the environment.

The Appalachian Citizens Law Center works on behalf of miners and their widows in obtaining black lung benefits as well as representing groups challenging environmental damage don’t by extractive industry.

Caravan participants assisted the ACLC in explaining to client groups how to identify individuals with standing.

The end of the week workshop for environmental groups was an opportunity to blend the expertise of legal professionals (and students) with those of scientists and concerned lay individuals.