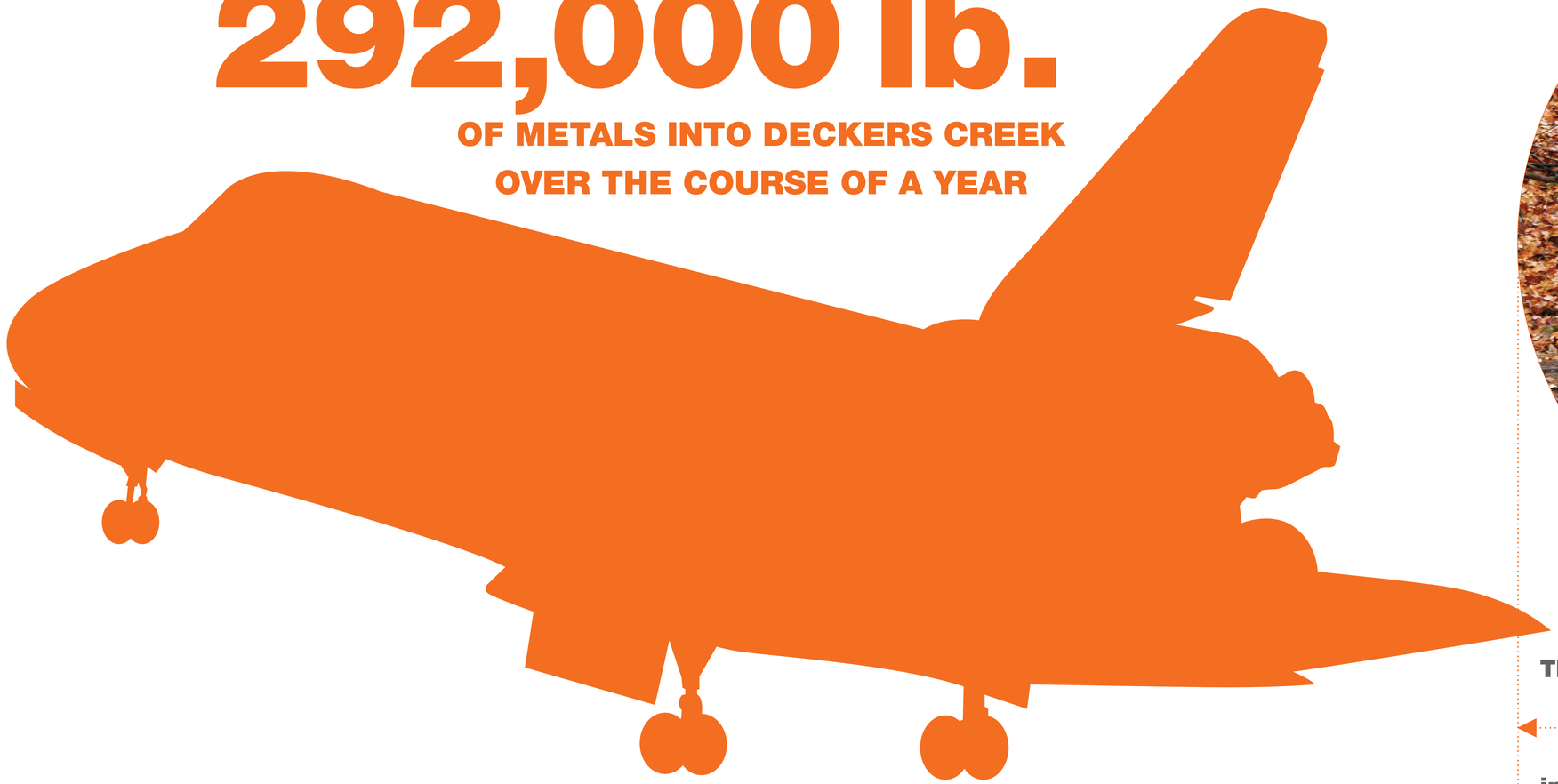
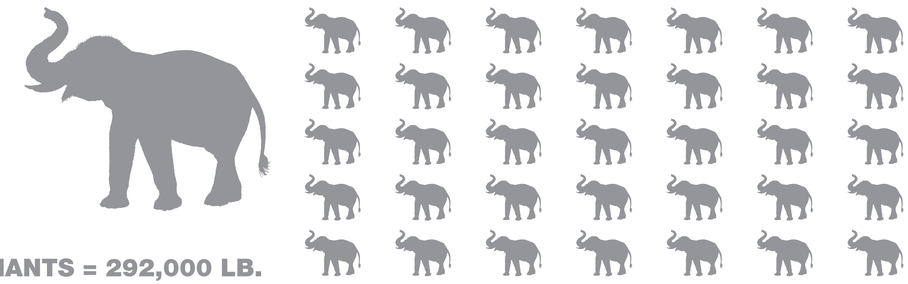
THE RICHARD MINE DUMPS

292,000 lb.

OF METALS INTO DECKERS CREEK OVER THE COURSE OF A YEAR



SPACESHIP ENDEAVOUR = 292,500 LB.



36 ELEPHANTS = 292,000 LB.

The discharge from the Richard Mine exits from a

18-INCH PIPE

into Deckers Creek, where it degrades the last five miles before it enters into the Monongahela River.

The largest source of AMD in the Deckers Creek Watershed is the Richard Mine. The mine dumps more than a ton of acidity and more than 800 pounds of metals into the creek every day (2.8 tons a week, 11.2 tons a month). The abandoned mine discharge is acidic and high in heavy metals (iron, aluminum, and manganese), which makes the water in Deckers Creek toxic to most aquatic life.

These **last five miles**, the Morgantown corridor, are the most devestated portion of the stream and run through the **most populated** portion of the watershed.

WHAT IS ACID MINE DRAINAGE (AMD)?

ACCORDING TO THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY:

Acid mine drainage is the formation and movement of **highly acidic water** rich in **heavy metals.** This acidic water forms through the **chemical reaction of surface water** (rainwater, snowmelt, pond water) and shallow subsurface water with rocks that contain sulfur-bearing minerals, resulting in **sulfuric acid.** Heavy metals can be leached from rocks that come in contact with the acid, a process that may be substantially enhanced by bacterial action. The resulting fluids **may be highly toxic** and, when mixed with groundwater, surface water, and soil, may have **harmful effects on humans, animals, and plants.** water.epa.gov/polwaste/nps/acid_mine.cfm#info

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- **Become a member of Friends of Deckers Creek**
- **Volunteer your time. Three hours earns you a year's membership!**
- **Write your public officials in support of Richard Mine Remediation Project.**
- **Go to: deckerscreek.org or email: info@deckerscreek.org.**