

CONTAMINATED SITES “CLEAN UP TOOL KIT” FOR CITIZENS

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Superfund Program:

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/> <<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/>> .

Toxic waste sites are studied and often listed for cleanup by EPA under Superfund. They identify the parties that caused the pollution and require them to clean up the site. If parties are unable to do this, they conduct and pay for remediation to health protective levels. Technical Assistance Grants (TAGs) are available to citizen groups to get technical experts to advise them in commenting on the cleanup.

Superfund Community Involvement Resources: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/>

The goal of Superfund community involvement is to advocate and strengthen early and meaningful community participation during Superfund cleanups. Superfund community involvement staffs at Headquarters and in the Regions strive to:

- Encourage and enable community members to get involved.
- Listen carefully to what the community is saying.
- Take the time needed to deal with community concerns.
- Change planned actions where community comments or concerns have merit.
- Keep the community well informed of ongoing and planned activities.
- Explain to the community what EPA has done and why.

Superfund Regional Public Liaisons. <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/rpl/>

The Public Liaison is a Regional official designated to help people with issues or concerns about Superfund site cleanups. Each Regional Office has a Public Liaison. EPA is committed to being responsive to the public and to promptly and fairly resolving issues and concerns brought to their attention. In some cases, the individual or group raising the concern may believe the normal problem solving channels did not deal fully or objectively with their situation. A Regional Public Liaison can independently look into the circumstances and try to facilitate a resolution of the issues. A Public Liaison will assist people in obtaining information and mediating discussions with program staff. Public Liaisons do not have the authority to make or change Agency decisions. Their success depends on their ability to help the parties involved develop mutually acceptable solutions.

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/>.

Comprehensive information about specific toxic chemicals and their health effects. They conduct and publish studies on health problems at Superfund sites. They assist both community members and EPA, which relies on them for advice on health impacts.

Contaminated Site Clean UP information (Clu-In) : <http://www.clu-in.org/> <<http://www.clu-in.org/>>

Information about innovative remediation technologies and free web-based trainings on these topics. Particularly useful sections are “Contaminants” and “Training and Events”.

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) <http://www.niehs.nih.gov/> This branch of the federal government funds and publishes scientific information about a wide range of research related to the health impacts of toxic chemicals. Citizens can use this to learn more about the contaminants at sites that concern them.

Green Remediation: Making each Superfund cleanup “greener”

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/greenremediation/>

Green remediation strategies may help minimize the footprint and ensure a protective remedy within the Superfund statutory and regulatory framework, as established by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan. Opportunities to decrease the environmental footprint and maximize the environmental outcome of a cleanup exist throughout a project life, extending from site investigation through development of cleanup alternatives and remedy design, construction, operation, and monitoring.

Superfund Redevelopment Program <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/programs/recycle/index.html>

Superfund Redevelopment at EPA helps communities return some of the nation's worst hazardous waste sites to safe and productive uses. In addition to cleaning up these Superfund sites and making them protective of human health and the environment, the Agency is working with communities and other partners in considering future use opportunities and integrating appropriate reuse options into the cleanup process. The Agency is also working with communities at sites that have already been cleaned up to ensure long-term stewardship of site remedies and to promote reuse. [More about the program.](#)

Climate Effects on toxic Sites: Superfund in the Eye of the Storm (2009): >

http://www.besafenet.com/media/docs_media/superfund.pdf

This report documents why the Superfund Tax must be reauthorized. As the climate-change related extreme weather events are becoming more frequent and more intense, they are posing a significant threat to the future integrity of many Superfund sites. The strong winds of hurricanes and tornados can cause significant damage such as disrupting contaminated soils and moving waste barrels long distances, or damaging protective liners covering dangerous toxic waste dumps. Flooding can dislodge buried waste, displace chemicals stored above ground, and spread contamination in soil. Extreme weather conditions that have impacted Superfund sites include Hurricanes Ike in 2008, Katrina and Rita in 2005, and Ivan in 2004; tornados in Oklahoma and Iowa in 2008 and related flooding in Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri in 2008.

Mining Waste Clean up Guidance: <http://www.itrcweb.org/miningwaste-guidance/>

<<http://www.itrcweb.org/miningwaste-guidance/>> : ITRC's Mining Waste Team developed the ITRC Web-based Mine Waste Technology Selection site to assist project managers in selecting an applicable technology, or suite of technologies, which can be used to remediate mine waste contaminated sites. Decision trees, through a series of questions, guide users to a set of treatment technologies that may be applicable to that particular site situation. Each technology is described, along with a summary of the applicability, advantages, limitations, performance, stakeholder and regulatory considerations, and lessons learned.

Gardening in Contaminated Soils:

http://www.clu-in.org/download/misc/urban_gardening_fact_sheet.pdf

Program at Iron King Mine Superfund Site: <http://garden-roots.org/>