BoRit Asbestos Site

Ambler/Whitpain/Upper Dublin
Montgomery County, PA
January 2007

Fall Sampling Round Completed

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), along with EPA's Asbestos Technical Review Workgroup, completed the first round of seasonal sampling at the BoRit Asbestos site last October and November.

What was done in October?

EPA workers took the first round of air samples over four consecutive seven-hour days, which included:

-Taking samples from eight locations within the site boundary.

-Taking five samples off-site, sampling locations within a 1/4 mile of the perimeter of the Site.

-Taking an additional sample, called a "background" sample, from a nearby town.

-Conducted activity-based air sampling in the park by workers wearing personal air sampling pumps performing tasks such as grass cutting and sample collection.

-Cleared vegetation at some sections of the park using brush cutters.

-Took soil samples in the park. The soil results will help us evaluate the existing cover at the park.

EPA, DEP and ATSDR toxicologists are currently reviewing the results of all these samples and will share the final data with the public when it's available.

Next Steps:

-EPA will continue to use both the off-site location, and the nearby town location for follow up sampling every quarter for the next year.

-On-site sampling locations will vary depending on the wind direction the day the samples are taken. Winter sampling is scheduled for February.

What was done in November?

We took a second round of activity-based air samples and ambient air samples. EPA contractors, wearing personal air pumps, did a series of raking scenarios at the park and the pile. They also took samples while hiking along the bank of Wissahickon Creek, the park and the pile.

- Set up air sampling pumps along the perimeter of the site, in the community, and in the nearby town, based on wind direction

ACTIVITY-BASED SAMPLING

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Surface water, sediment, and flood-prone soils samples were also collected and tested for asbestos. Workers also wore personal air sampling pumps during these activities.

Next Steps:

-Validated results are expected sometime in February. Once EPA, DEP, and ATSDR toxicologists review the data, it will be shared with the public.

Site Description

The site is located along West Maple Street and Chestnut Avenue in Ambler, PA. It consists of three properties — the current Kane Core Property, the reservoir (owned by the Wissahickon Watershed Authority Waterfowl Preserve) and the former Whitpain Park. The site was previously used as a disposal area for asbestos containing materials (ACM).

Contacts

EPA On-Scene Coordinators
Eduardo Rovira
(215) 814-3436
rovira.eduardo@epa.gov

Jack Kelly
(215) 814-3112
kelly.jack@epa.gov

DEP Project Manager
Timothy Cherry
(484) 250-5728
tcherry@state.pa.us

EPA Community Involvement Coordinator
Larry Johnson
(215) 814-3239
johnson.larry-c@epa.gov

DEP Community Relations
Lynda Rebarchak
(484) 250-5820
lrebarchak@state.pa.us

ATSDR
Lora Werner
(215) 814-3141
lkw9@cdc.gov

Montgomery County Department of Health
Harriet Morton
(610) 278-5117
hmorton@mail.montcopa.org

SOIL SAMPLING ON WHITPAIN PARK NOVEMBER 2006

Public Meeting Scheduled

A PUBLIC MEETING IS SCHEDUELED FOR JAN 24 2006 AT 7:30PM AT THE WISSAHICKON MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA.
Representatives from the US Environmental Protection Agency, The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and the Montgomery County Department of Health will be on hand to present new information and answer questions.

Larry Johnson
1650 Arch Street
Mailcode : 3HS52
Philadelphia, Pa 19103