



# HIDDEN LANE LANDFILL SUPERFUND SITE EPA COMMUNITY UPDATE

STERLING, LOUDOUN COUNTY, VIRGINIA

APRIL 2010

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has developed this fact sheet to update you on ongoing cleanup and investigative work at the Hidden Lane Landfill Site, and to inform you of upcoming, additional investigation work that will ensure public health and safety remain fully protected.

## SITE BACKGROUND BEFORE CLEANUP

This landfill was once a 25-acre privately owned and operated disposal facility north of Virginia Route 7 between the Broad Run Farms and Countryside communities. It is adjacent to the floodplain of the Potomac River. Starting in 1971, the facility accepted a variety of solid wastes including construction and demolition wastes.

The county closed the facility down in the mid-1980s, and in 1989, this site was found to be a likely source of the degreasing solvent trichloroethylene (TCE), detected in drinking water wells of some homes in the Broad Run Farms subdivision.

## EPA STARTS CLEANUP WORK

To protect public health, EPA placed the landfill on the National Priorities List of most hazardous waste sites in 2008 to make it eligible for funding from the federal Superfund cleanup program. Upon site listing, EPA:

- Assumed maintenance responsibilities for water treatment systems in homes with contaminated wells previously maintained by the Virginia
- Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ);
- Began investigating the property and surrounding area for long-term cleanup work. This phase is called the Remedial Investigation (RI). Parts of the RI include:

- Repairs and upgrades to the existing methane venting system around the landfill.
- Regular testing of the upgraded methane venting system.
- Testing of surface water and sediments in the Potomac River for TCE.
- Installing a system of 19 monitoring wells in and around the site to determine the location of the plume of contaminated groundwater.

## RECENT FINDINGS TO HELP CLEANUP

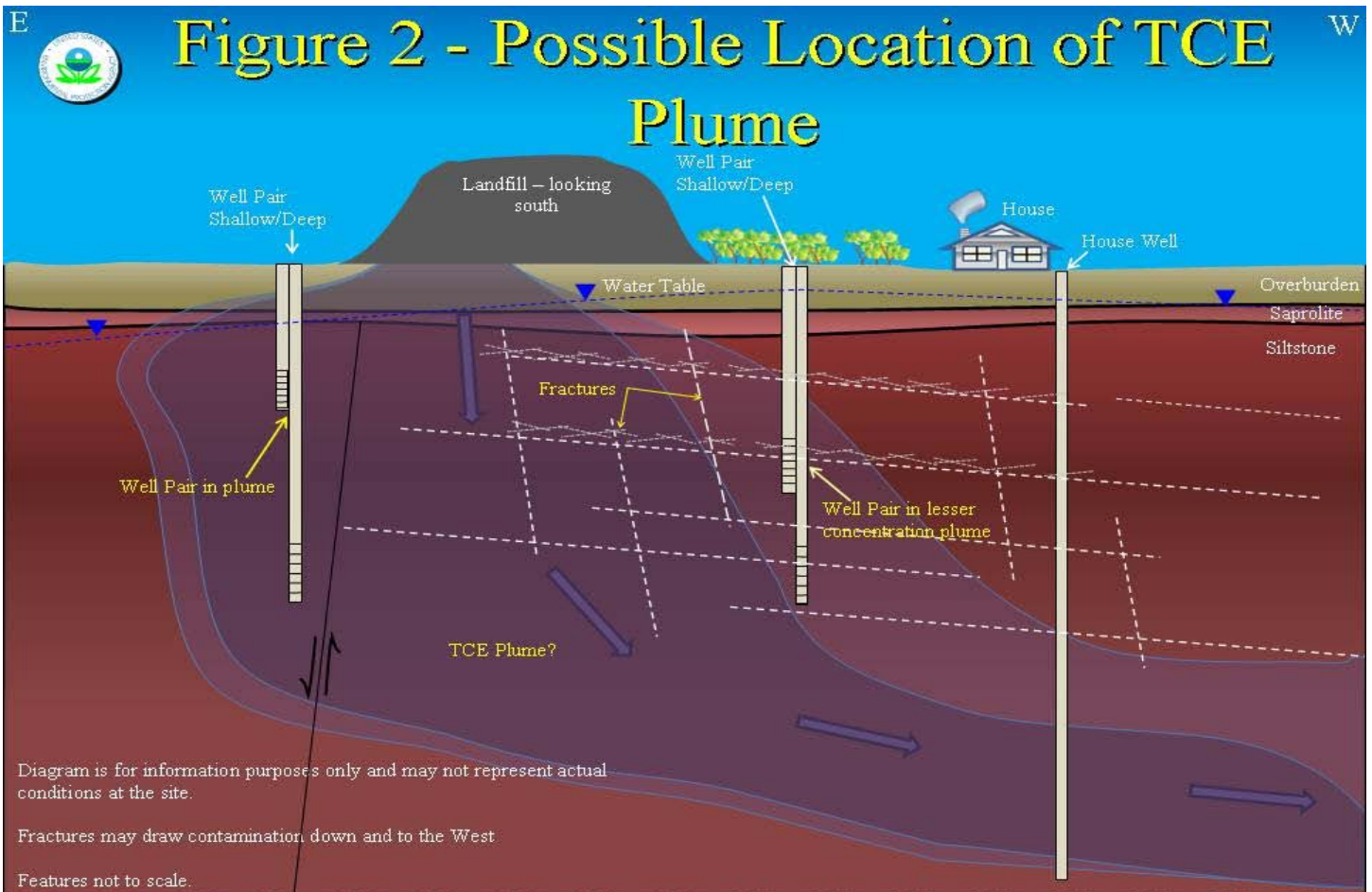
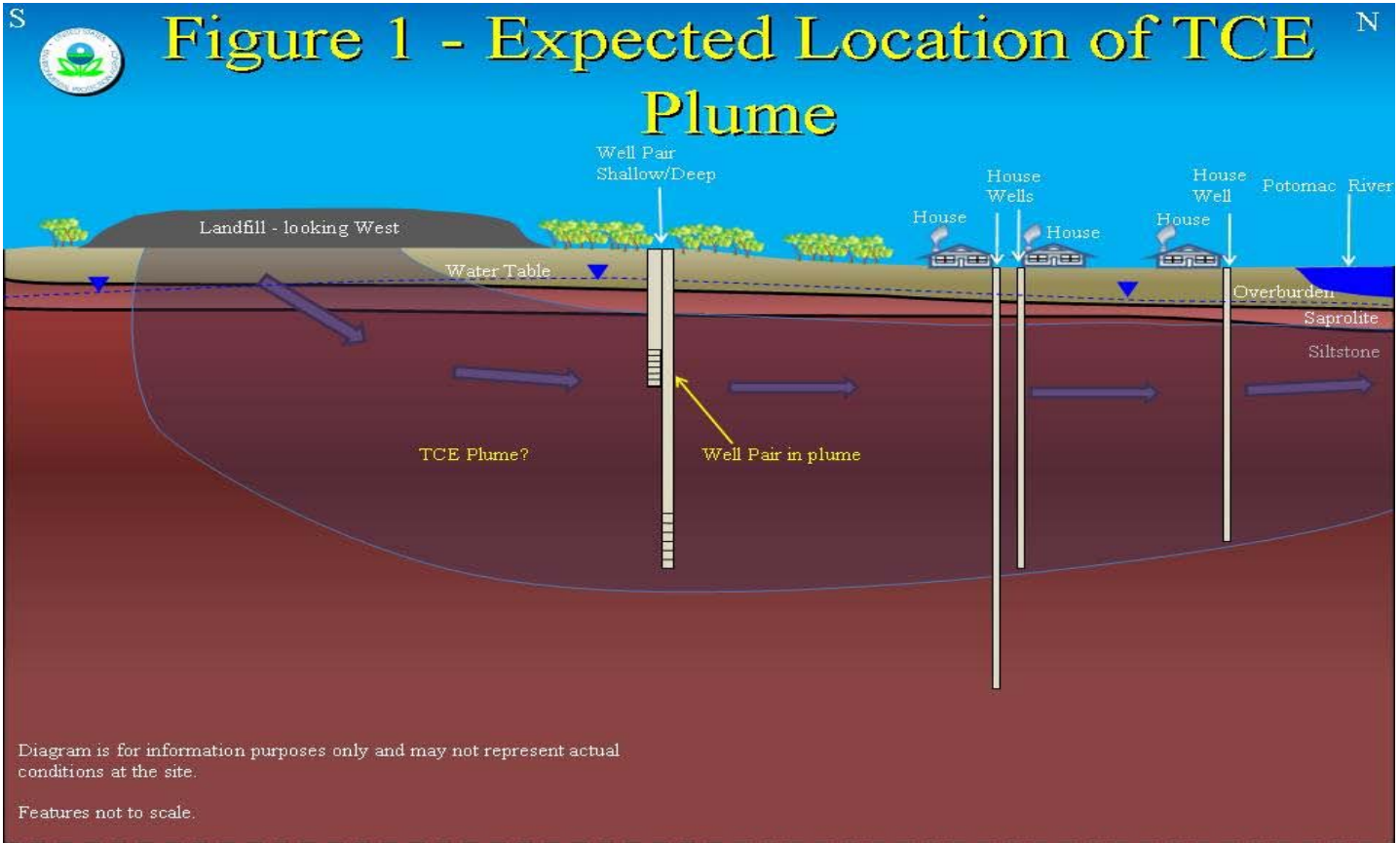
No TCE was found in the Potomac River, sediments or nearby streams--that's good news for the river's ecology.

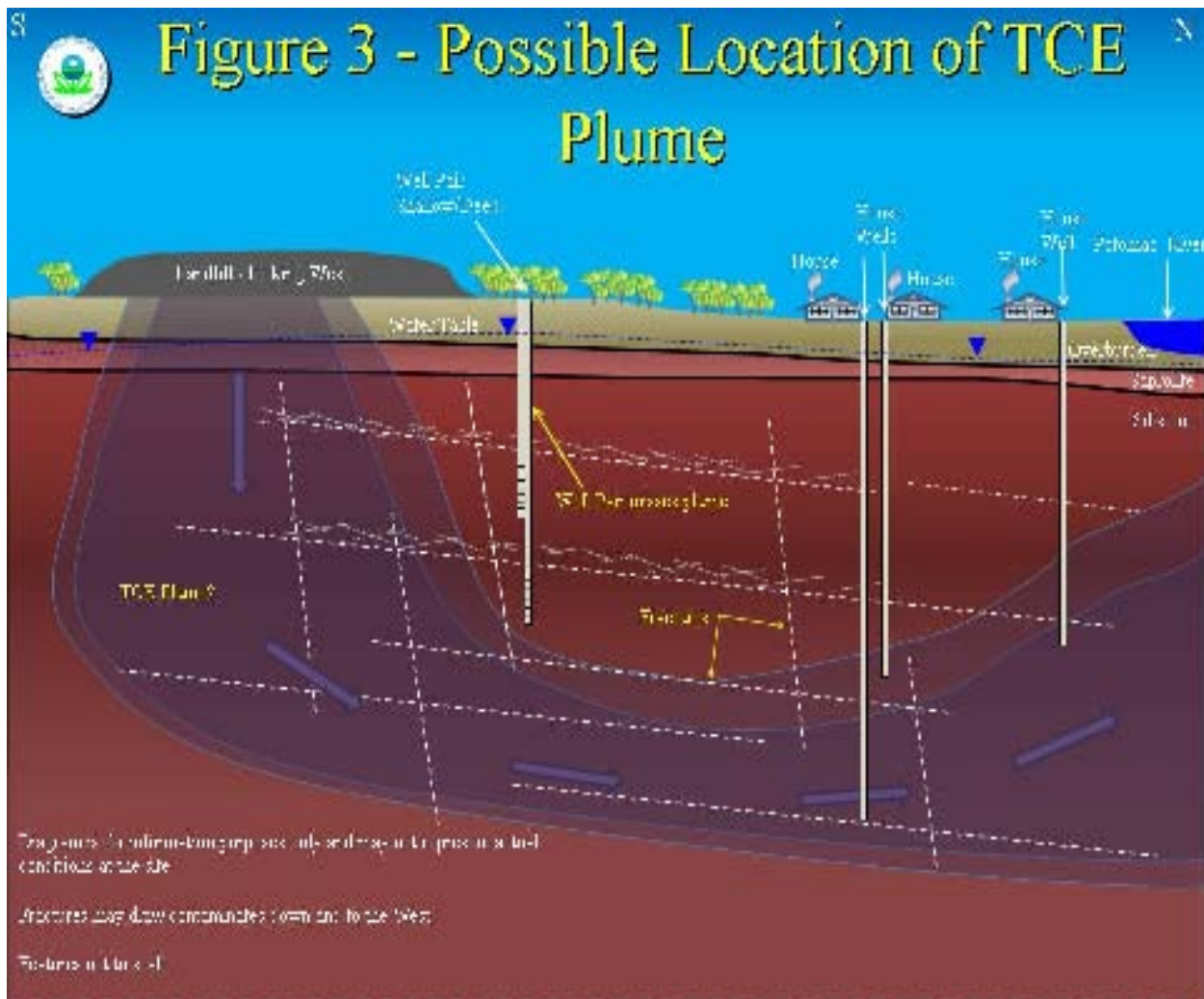
After well installations were completed and samples were taken by the end of 2009, TCE was detected at levels lower than expected in monitoring wells; both near the landfill and to the north and west where contaminated drinking water wells had been reported.

Based on the locations and levels of TCE found, EPA experts believe that the plume's depth and location are somewhat different than initially expected (See Figure 1).

EPA knows that the bedrock beneath the site has a number of open cracks or "fractures" that can provide a preferred pathway for groundwater flow.

We believe that groundwater may be flowing down through the fractures to deeper levels, closer to the landfill than expected, then moving north and west (See Figures 2 and 3).





### NEXT STEPS BASED ON FINDINGS

In order to conduct a thorough cleanup of the site, we need to confirm this working theory and will do so by installing and testing nine, significantly deeper, monitoring wells at and around the site. If the findings from these new wells confirm this theory, EPA will then construct a “Conceptual Site Model” providing a more accurate depiction of the plume’s location and possible movement. After the model is constructed, EPA will come up with an approach, or a remedy, as part of the Feasibility Study (FS) to control and contain the contamination.

EPA will begin putting in these deeper wells later this spring.

### WE’LL KEEP YOU UPDATED

This work will look very much like the well installations we did last year. We may take a little longer at each location, since we’ll be drilling deeper. As we develop more information about the site we will inform the community through fact sheets and public meetings.

## Site Contacts

For additional information about the Hidden Lane Landfill Superfund Site located in Sterling, Loudoun County, VA, please contact a representative listed below:

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Additional information about the Hidden Lane Landfill Superfund Site is available on EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/super/sites/VAD980829030/index.htm> Select the 'VA' link and then, on the next page, click on click on the 'Administrative Record' link online at <http://www.epa.gov/arweb> the 'Hidden Lane' link.

### Administrative Records Room

1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
To review Site-related documents, 215-814-8157 (by appointment)



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