



# Two Studies Mark Beginning of Cleanup

East Troy Contaminated Aquifer Site

Troy, Ohio

July 2010

## You are invited

EPA will hold a public meeting to update residents about the investigation and cleanup of the ground water in East Troy.

**Date:** July 15

**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Place:** Troy Junior High School  
556 Adams St.  
Troy

If you have questions or need special accommodations at the meeting contact Don de Blasio. His contact information is listed below.

## Information repository

You may review site documents at:  
Troy-Miami Public Library  
419 W. Main St.  
Troy

Or visit:

[www.epa.gov/region5/sites/troyvoc](http://www.epa.gov/region5/sites/troyvoc)

## For more information

To learn more about the East Troy Contaminated Aquifer site, contact one of these team members:

### Don de Blasio

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You may call Region 5 toll-free at 800-621-8431, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays

An investigation is scheduled to begin this summer in the first step toward cleaning up ground water contamination at the East Troy Contaminated Aquifer site. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will begin the first of two studies on polluted ground water underneath the site. The site includes a 20-block portion of the city of Troy, adjacent to the downtown portion of the city east of Market Street, south of the Great Miami River, west of Williams Street and north of Race Street.

The first study, known as a “remedial investigation,” is designed to find out where the contamination is and how widespread it is. EPA will do extensive testing to map out the area contaminated by what are called “volatile organic compounds.”

VOCs are a group of chemicals used in solvents, paints and dry-cleaning fluid. Breathing low levels of VOCs for long periods may cause an increase in health risks. Two such compounds confirmed in the ground water at the site are trichloroethene, or TCE, and tetrachloroethene, or PCE. EPA suspects these chemicals were used by former dry cleaning or metal cleaning businesses that operated in the area. During the remedial investigation, EPA will do extensive testing within the area of polluted ground water. EPA will test the ground water and the soil, as well as the surface water and sediment (mud) within the Great Miami River.

Once this investigation is complete, EPA will conduct a “feasibility study.” The purpose of this second study is to look at a range of options for cleaning up the contamination. The site was placed on the National Priorities List in September 2008 making it eligible for federal money for the investigation and cleanup under EPA’s Superfund program.

Previous investigations conducted by EPA and Ohio EPA from July 2006 to April 2007 confirmed the presence of VOCs in ground water, soil and in the indoor air of some residential, public and commercial buildings. Sampling of gas in the soil beneath the buildings and the air inside them has confirmed that the VOCs are moving up through the soil and into the structures through cracks in foundations. This process is called “vapor intrusion.” In response, from June 2007 to April 2008, EPA installed systems in 16 homes and one school to remove the vapors.

## Testing to be done at some homes

EPA will also take soil gas samples from more homes within the area of polluted ground water to help determine the extent of the vapor intrusion. The results of the ground water and soil testing will be used to determine which homes will be tested. If your home is selected, EPA will contact you to get permission for the testing. This testing will be done by taking a soil gas sample from beneath the foundation of your house. This is done by drilling one or two holes about an


# Map of Site Investigation Area



Image Source: City of Troy



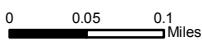
## Legend

 U.S. EPA Site Investigation Area



Prepared for:  
**U.S. EPA REGION V**  
Contract No: EP-S5-06-04

**SITE LOCATION MAP**  
**TROY VOC PLUME SITE**  
**TROY, MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO**  
June 2010

Scale:  Miles

inch wide and 8 inches deep through the basement floor. A sensor is then inserted into the hole and attached to a canister that stays in place for 24 hours to measure gases in the soil. This is the same sampling technique that was used during previous EPA investigations in 2006-2007.

All this testing is done at no cost to you and is completely safe. The tests are designed to protect your family's health. EPA will let you know if the test results show any contamination under your house, and whether the air inside your house should be tested. EPA will prepare a plan for cleaning up any contaminants that are found in indoor air at unsafe levels.

Testing will begin this summer and will involve machinery and trucks, including equipment to drill ground water monitoring wells. You should expect to see additional truck traffic and workers, probably in July and August. Some workers may be wearing protective clothing, which is required by law.

### Public Health Assessment

The Ohio Department of Health, in cooperation with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, or ATSDR, has released for public comment a draft of the

Public Health Assessment for the East Troy Contaminated Aquifer site. Comments will be accepted through July 12, 2010. The document is available for review on the Ohio Department of Health web page: <http://www.odh.ohio.gov>. Information on how to comment on the document is included on the web site.

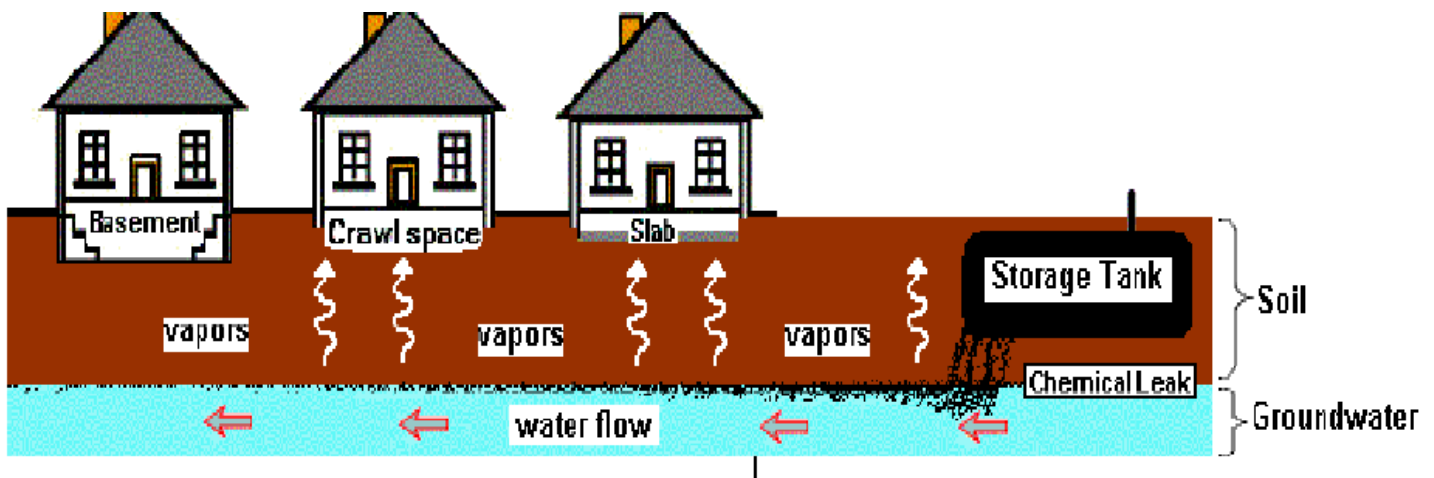
Health representatives from ODH will be also be available at the meeting to answer questions about the Troy site.

### Next steps


Once these studies are done, EPA will develop a proposed plan. This document explains several possible cleanup methods. It will explain in detail the option EPA considers the most appropriate, cost-effective way to clean up the pollution. You and your neighbors will have an opportunity to learn about the proposed plan and tell EPA what you think about it. After public comments have been considered, EPA may revise its recommendation based on those comments before publishing a final cleanup plan known to EPA as a "record of decision." You will have an opportunity to comment on the final plan before cleanup work begins.

### What is vapor intrusion?

Volatile chemicals in contaminated soil and groundwater can evaporate causing vapors. Vapor intrusion is a process when these vapors move through soil and into the basements through cracks in foundations and into indoor spaces of homes and other buildings. (See graphic below.)



**YOU ARE INVITED  
TO A  
PUBLIC MEETING  
(SEE DETAILS INSIDE)**

 *Reproduced on Recycled Paper*

**EAST TROY CONTAMINATED AQUIFER SITE:  
Two Studies Mark Beginning of Cleanup**

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