



Public Meeting Planned For Lead Cleanup Project

Federal Mogul Site
Detroit, Michigan

October 2012

For more information

If you have questions, comments or need more information about the Federal Mogul lead investigation, you can contact these team members:

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency conducted recent sampling of residential yards next to the former Federal Mogul property in Detroit. The sampling found lead levels on 10 properties greater than what health experts consider safe.

To fix the lead problem next spring, EPA is proposing to remove 1 to 2 feet of yard soil and replace it with clean soil. Over the winter, EPA will be preparing plans for the cleanup, asking residents to give EPA permission to be on their property, checking utility lines and securing the necessary funding to complete the project.

Community meeting

EPA, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the city of Detroit will hold a community meeting at 4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 2, at The Samaritan Center, 5555 Conner Ave., Detroit. Those needing special accommodations should contact EPA Community Involvement Coordinator Don de Blasio by Oct. 31 (contact information at left).

Questions and answers

Here are answers to some of the most commonly asked questions about the situation:

How do you know lead contamination is limited to these properties?

The MDEQ tested areas upwind and downwind of the industrial site and compared the results with the historical prevailing wind direction. The study concluded that soil samples collected do not suggest historic aerial releases from smelting operations.

How can families reduce the risk of exposure to lead?

- Wash hands after coming into contact with bare spots in the yard.
- Wash children's hands and faces often to remove dirt and soil.
- Do not allow children to chew or "mouth" surfaces of items or to put things from the yard into their mouth.
- Use a doormat to wipe feet before entering your home. Regularly clean your house to remove dust and tracked-in dirt.

Where did the lead come from?

From 1925 to the 1970s, an industrial facility operated at 11031 Shoemaker St. Several companies including Federal Mogul Corp., Bower Bearing Manufacturers and Ernst Realty Co./Ernst Fuel & Supply did manufacturing at the site.