



BLACK LEAF CHEMICAL SITE

LOUISVILLE, KY

FACT SHEET



No. 7

October 2013

This Site information sheet summarizes the history of the Site, activities presently underway at the Site, and future activities planned for the Site.

If you have questions or comments about the Site, please contact us at the numbers listed below:

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Site Background

The Black Leaf Chemical Site is a former pesticide formulating facility located in the Louisville Industrial Park at 1391 Dixie Highway in Louisville, KY. The Site, which is located on a 29 acre property in the Park Hill neighborhood operated from the 1930s to the 1970s, and handled pesticides such as Black Leaf 40, DDT, Dieldrin, and Lindane.

Site investigations from 2010-2013 confirmed the presence of DDT and dieldrin in surface soils on the industrial property and in residential yards. Elevated levels of arsenic, lead, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) were also discovered.

Current Status

On August 19th, residential soil cleanup began in the back yards on the 1500 block of Wilson Avenue moving west along the alley toward 17th St. As of October 12th, 26 lots have completed. The EPA anticipates that the 10 lots scheduled for removal due to high lead and PAH levels will be completed by mid-October. At that point, the remainder of the residential cleanup activities will be directed by KDEP. KDEP expects the cleanup activities to run into December, as each yard is expected to take 2-3 days to complete and a number of new access agreements were received once work started. Owners and residents should keep in mind that the work is weather dependent and may extend into 2014.

Information for Residents

From August 19th through September 24th, the EPA performed air monitoring and collected 12 air samples to confirm that any airborne dust due to excavation work was within acceptable guidelines. The results show that there were no detectable amounts of arsenic or lead. The average daily readings for total dust during this period were within air quality standards. In addition, erosion control measures constructed on the Black Leaf property are designed to prevent potentially contaminated soil particles from migrating to residential areas which have been cleaned up.

The 3 week period for watering lawns has elapsed at many homes and/or soon will be for many others. Letters will be sent to owners and residents of cleaned up properties to let them know that work is complete. Instructions for how to care for their new lawn will be included.