

# Louisville Superfund Research Center: Fact Sheet

## What are Superfund Sites?

- A site where hazardous waste or contamination is present, *and* the EPA is involved in its cleanup and monitoring.
- The EPA funds and monitors Superfund site cleanups to:
  - Protect human health and the environment
  - Hold responsible parties accountable for cleanup
  - Involve communities
  - Make sites available for reuse
- There are over 1,300 Superfund sites in the U.S.
- Lees Lane is an example.



## Who is our funder?

- The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences' (NIEHS) Superfund Research Program (part of NIH)
- NIEHS funds 23 Superfund Centers around the country to study various environmental health issues that arise from Superfund sites.
- UofL's Superfund Research Center Investigators will focus on Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) impact on human health.

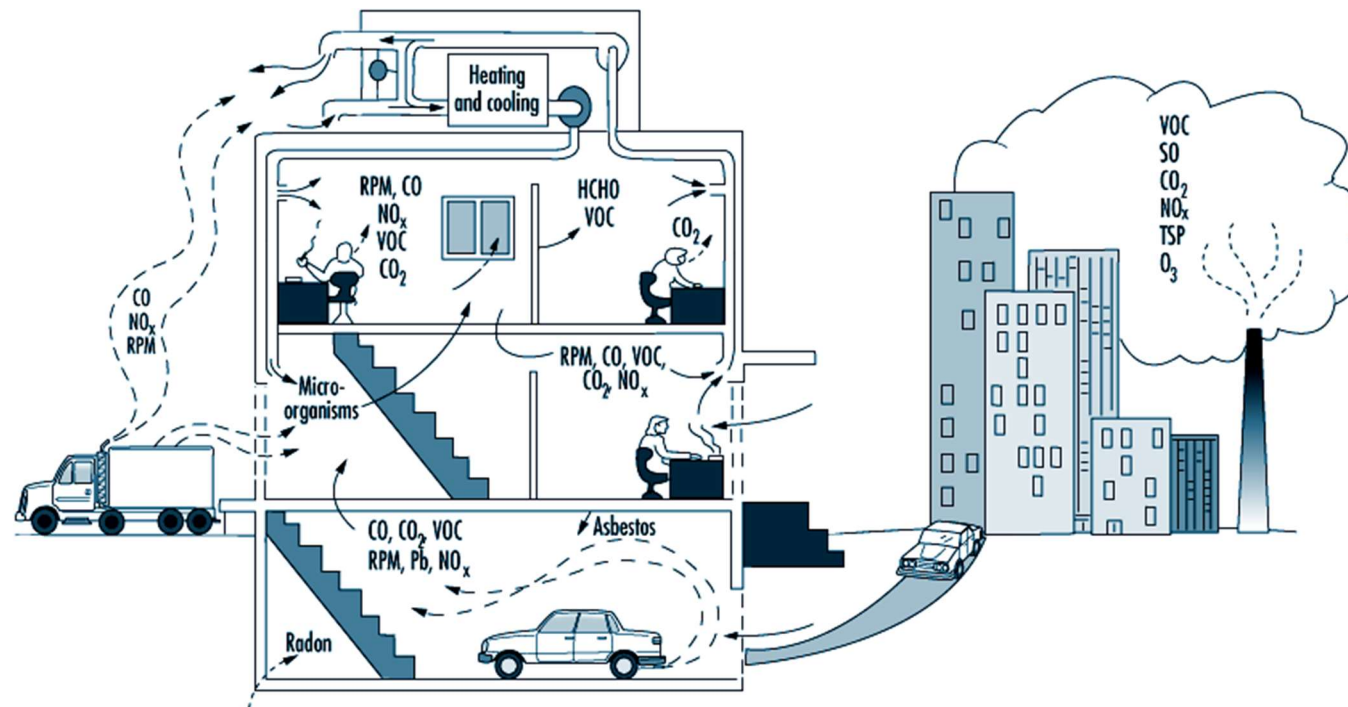
## How can you help?

- Consider serving on our community advisory board
- Attend our upcoming events, bring friends
- Invite an investigator to come talk with your community group
- Sign-up for more information about one of our four projects
- Follow us on Facebook /UofLsrp and /CEPMUofL

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# What are VOCs?

- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are human made and naturally occurring chemical compounds
- VOCs are harmful to long-term health
- VOCs are organic chemicals that evaporate at room-temperature
- VOCs can be found in: tobacco smoke, paint supplies, automobile emissions, pesticides, building materials, office equipment, soil, personal care products, and from a variety of additional sources



CO = carbon monoxide; CO<sub>2</sub> = carbon dioxide; HCHO = formaldehyde; NO<sub>x</sub> = nitrogen oxides; Pb = lead; RPM = respirable particulate matter; VOC = volatile organic compounds.

**VOCs exist in a variety of compounds and are present in outdoor and indoor air. They are common at Superfund sites.**