



BoRit Asbestos Site Update

WHITPAIN TOWNSHIP, UPPER DUBLIN TOWNSHIP, AMBLER BOROUGH,
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

JANUARY 2009

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN

As the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3 (EPA) continues to work on the BoRit Asbestos Site, a **Community Involvement Plan (CIP)** will be created for the site. A CIP is a document that EPA uses to ensure we continue effective two-way communication between residents and EPA. Some things that commonly make up a CIP include:

- A history of the site.
- Prior community involvement efforts.
- EPA's assessment of the community's concerns.
- EPA's plan to keep the community informed.

An important part of making a CIP is having one-on-one interviews with members of the community. These interviews help us determine the best way to keep the community involved and help address any issues concerning the site.

GET INVOLVED!

Your involvement in the CIP will ensure that your concerns are heard and that EPA is able to keep you informed. Anyone living in the vicinity of the site is welcome to speak with an EPA **Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC)** to discuss any concerns and to ask questions about the site. All responses and personal information is kept confidential; your personal information will not appear in the document. Here are some steps on how to get involved:

- Fill out the attached form and mail it back to the CIC
- Send an email to the CIC at cruz.franciscoj@epa.gov requesting an interview
- Call the CIC at 215-814-5528 to set up an interview. Interview times will be set up at your convenience.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The BoRit Asbestos Site is made up of 3 distinct sections of land. These sections include:

- An asbestos waste pile located on a 6-acre section of the site that is owned by Kane-Core, Inc.
- A 15-acre reservoir that is owned by the Wissahickon Watershed Association. The berm of the reservoir is made of **asbestos containing materials (ACM)**.
- An 11-acre park that is owned by Whitpain Township. The park has been closed since the 1980s due to asbestos contamination.

The site was used to dispose of ACM which came from the nearby Keasby and Mattison asbestos manufacturing plant. The plant operated from the 1930s to the 1970s.

REMEDIAL PROGRAM UPDATE

The site was proposed to the **National Priorities List (NPL)** in September 2008. The NPL is a list of the nation's most serious uncontrolled and abandoned hazardous waste sites. If the site's listing is finalized, it would make the site eligible for federal money towards a long-term cleanup.

Visit EPA's website for more information on the BoRit Asbestos Site at:
www.epaosc.net/BoRit

REMOVAL PROGRAM UPDATE

The Removal Program has been working at the site since July 2008. Most of the work has been preliminary activities for stream bank stabilization along the Wissahickon Creek.

Stabilization activities began the week of December 21, 2008, where geotextile fabric was placed from the toe of the bank to one foot above the 100-year flood level. In January 2009, EPA began placing geocells on the slope, starting from the toe to the top of the stream bank. The following picture was taken following geocell placement along the stream bank:



The next steps in stabilizing the stream bank will include rip rap stone placement along the bank, filling the geocells with soil and seeds, and the placement of erosion mats, and hydroseeding in the spring.

ASBESTOS IN YARDS

EPA is still offering to conduct visual inspections of local yards if residents are unsure if they have asbestos in their yards that is not related to the building materials of their homes. *It is important to remember that the risk of asbestos exposure is minimal if asbestos is covered and undisturbed.*

If you would like EPA to conduct a visual inspection:

- Call the BoRit Field Office at 215-654-5190
- Visit the BoRit Field Office located at 324 West Maple Avenue in Ambler

SITE CONTACTS

EPA Community Involvement Coordinator

Francisco J. Cruz
215-814-5528
cruz.franciscoj@epa.gov

EPA On-Scene Coordinators

-Removal Program-

Eduardo Rovira
rovira.eduardo@epa.gov

Jack Kelly
kelly.jack@epa.gov

EPA Remedial Project Managers

-Remedial Program-

Stacie Peterson
peterson.stacie@epa.gov

Joe McDowell
mcdowell.joseph@epa.gov

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

Lora Werner
215-814-3141
lkw9@cdc.gov

BoRit Field Office

215-654-5190

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EPA Technical Assistance Grants

EPA's Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) Program provides funds of up to \$50,000 to qualified citizens' groups affected by a Superfund Site to hire independent technical advisors to help interpret and comment on site-related information. Since only one TAG may be awarded for a site, EPA encourages groups to consolidate to apply. For TAG information, please contact Amelia Libertz, TAG Coordinator, at 1-800-352-1973 extension 4-5522.



This picture shows the stream bank of the Wissahickon Creek before the geotextile mats and the geocells were placed. Appropriate erosion controls were placed while the prep work was being conducted.



The picture above shows the stream bank of the Wissahickon Creek as the geotextile fabric and the geocells were being placed.

If you would like to be a part of the Community Involvement Plan for this site, please complete the form below and mail it to the address listed below. Someone will call you to set up a one-on-one appointment at your home or place of business, at your convenience. Each interview will take approximately 20 minutes to 1 hour, based on your responses.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ **Work Phone:** _____

Email Address: _____

Return to:

Francisco J. Cruz at cruz.franciscoj@epa.gov

Community Involvement Coordinator - EPA Region 3

1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Attn: Francisco J. Cruz
Mailcode 3HS52
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

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