



Greenwood Chemical Superfund Site
-- EPA Transfers Site Maintenance to VDEQ --
Greenwood, Albemarle County, VA



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3

March 2012

Virginia to Lead at Greenwood Chemical

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ), has been cleaning up groundwater contamination at the Greenwood Chemical Site, located near Newtown, Virginia, for many years. In March, EPA will transfer responsibility for on-going Site maintenance and monitoring to the VDEQ.

EPA has operated the pump-and-treat groundwater cleanup facility for about 10 years. VDEQ will continue to perform the same day-to-day operations after the transfer from EPA. EPA will continue to provide technical support to VDEQ project managers.

EPA and VDEQ will hold an **Open House on March 8, 2012**, so residents can meet the project managers and ask any questions they may have about the cleanup project. The Open House will be at the on-site treatment facility, so residents can see how the pump-and-treat system works.

Current Status and Next Steps

The Greenwood Chemical property can be safely used for recreational or industrial purposes.

The groundwater recovery well network is successfully capturing contaminated groundwater, preventing it from moving away from the Site. Contaminated groundwater takes many years to clean up. The pump-and-treat system is a long-term project.

VDEQ will continue operating the groundwater recovery and treatment facility and will routinely conduct environmental monitoring designed to confirm the effectiveness of the containment system. VDEQ will also continue a voluntary residential well monitoring program.

Although VDEQ will take the lead for Site operations, EPA will continue to conduct Five-Year Reviews, a comprehensive evaluation undertaken to assess whether the Site remains protective of human health and the environment. A Five-Year Review completed in September 2008 determined that the Site is protective; the next review will be completed by September 2013.

Work Already Accomplished

Work done at the Site includes:

- ✓ Dismantling the old chemical plant,
- ✓ Draining and excavating sludge and sediments from old disposal lagoons,
- ✓ Excavating buried drums and contaminated soils,
- ✓ Transporting all abandoned laboratory chemicals, demolition debris and excavated materials to appropriately permitted off-site facilities for treatment and/or disposal,
- ✓ Replacing excavated lagoons and contaminated soils with clean soil and reseeded to establish vegetation,
- ✓ Installing groundwater recovery wells around the perimeter of residual contamination deep below the area where the chemical plant was once located,
- ✓ Constructing and operating a groundwater treatment plant onsite,
- ✓ Maintaining an environmental monitoring program to optimize and confirm the effectiveness of the groundwater containment system,
- ✓ Conducting "Five-Year Reviews" to ensure the cleanup actions continue to be protective of human health and the environment,
- ✓ Residential well monitoring has shown no contaminants at levels of concern.



Antlered buck browses across restored natural habitat located at the cleaned up Greenwood Chemical Site.

Brief Site Background

- ❖ The Greenwood Chemical Site is an 18-acre site which produced chemicals for industrial, agricultural, pharmaceutical and photographic processes from the 1940s until 1985.
- ❖ In 1987, after an explosion at the chemical plant, EPA conducted emergency response actions to eliminate immediate threats presented at the Site and then began long-term cleanup actions.
- ❖ EPA completed investigations to identify potential risks presented by chemicals on the property and completed feasibility studies to evaluate cleanup options. Public meetings were held to discuss risks identified and options for cleanup.
- ❖ In summary, the overall cleanup plan implemented included removing all contaminated buildings, waste lagoons, buried drums and accessible contaminated soil. Final excavations were completed in 2005. Since 2002 a groundwater pump and treat system has been operated to contain contaminated groundwater at the Site.



For More Information

Visit our Greenwood Chemical Site webpage at:
www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/super/sites/VAD003125374/index.htm

Or Contact

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Meet and Greet

Please join us at an **Open House** for residents who would like to meet EPA and VDEQ project managers.

Thursday, March 8, 2012
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

at the
Greenwood Chemical Site
Treatment Facility
located at
637 Newtown Rd
Greenwood, VA

ADDRESS LABEL

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