

Lower Darby Creek Area Superfund Site

City of Philadelphia and Darby Township, Philadelphia & Delaware Counties, Pennsylvania

-- EPA to Secure Abandoned Cylinder at Clearview Landfill --

What:

EPA will remove the contents from an abandoned compressed gas cylinder labeled "Anhydrous Ammonia" that was discovered on the eastern side of the Clearview Landfill in November 2015. The cylinder is located on the Darby Township side of the Landfill and is approximately 300 feet away from the nearest homes. The nearest intersection is about 400 feet away at S. 82nd St. and Angelo Place, Philadelphia, PA. The cylinder is approximately 2.5 feet tall and is stable. While we know the cylinder is not full, there is likely some gas left inside. There currently is no risk of any accidental leakage or discharge. **The cylinder does not pose a hazard to the community in its current state.**

Why:

EPA is removing the remaining contents of the cylinder out of an abundance of caution. Should someone accidentally tamper with this cylinder, they could cause it to leak and that person could potentially become exposed to the ammonia gas. Exposure to ammonia gas can cause irritation to the eyes and lungs and, at stronger concentrations, can cause chemical burns.

When:

EPA plans to secure the contents of the cylinder during the week of February 8, 2016. We expect the work to take less than three days to complete.

What You Will Notice:

EPA contractors will be wearing appropriate protective equipment including a respirator, face shield, and chemical resistant clothing. See an example pictured below. The cylinder will be moved further away from the neighborhood towards the interior of the landfill boundary. Once there, the contents inside the cylinder will be properly emptied and neutralized. EPA will also monitor the air in real time at a downwind location between the cylinder and the nearest residences. If ammonia is detected by the air monitoring, activities will temporarily stop to re-evaluate the situation and determine the appropriate path forward. Even if the contents of the cylinder were to leak out during the work, the amount is small enough that it would not pose a hazard to the nearby neighborhood.

Contact Us:

If you have any questions about EPA's work, please contact us at:

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Please visit EPA's Lower Darby Creek Area Superfund Site webpage at: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/lowerdarby>



Map Showing Clearview Landfill and Approximate Location of Abandoned Cylinder

