

Ram Leather Care Site

Charlotte, North Carolina



Proposed Plan Fact Sheet

April 2018

Public Meeting

Tuesday, May 22nd, 6:00pm
Fellowship Baptist Church
11416 Albemarle Road in Mint Hill

Introduction

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites the public to comment on a Proposed Plan (Plan) to clean up the Ram Leather Care Superfund Site (Site), located in Charlotte, NC. This fact sheet discusses EPA's Proposed Plan to address the adverse environmental impacts resulting from Site-related contamination. The public is encouraged to comment on the Plan during the comment period. The Plan and associated documents related to the Site activities are available in the Administrative Record of the Information Repository housed at the Mint Hill Branch Library, 6840 Matthews-Mint Hill Rd. in Mint Hill, NC.

EPA'S Preferred Cleanup Remedy

The 2017 Remedial Investigation report focused on contamination in Site surface and subsurface soil and shallow ground water. Based on the conclusions of the 2017 report, which included a baseline human health risk assessment, the EPA determined that remedial actions are required to address Site contamination in the investigated media. EPA's preferred cleanup plan is based on a Feasibility Study completed in 2018. This study classified soil and ground water contamination at the Site into three contaminated media zones that will be addressed in this Proposed Plan (Figure 2). Cleanup remedies for other contaminated media at the Site, including bedrock aquifer and the regolith aquifer down-gradient of the Site will be developed in a future Proposed Plan.

The unsaturated zone (UZ) encompasses significantly contaminated surface and subsurface soil with significant leachable contaminant concentrations from 0 to about 20 feet below ground. The main source area (MSA) zone encompasses the most strongly contaminated subsurface soils and ground water from about 20 to about 70 feet (top of bedrock) below ground. The secondary source area (SSA) zone encompasses contaminated soil and ground water beginning at about 10 feet below ground in unsaturated soil to about 70 feet below ground extending down-gradient.

The preferred cleanup plan for the UZ is soil vapor extraction (SVE). The remedy will install 53 4-inch-diameter wells to treat approximately 34,920 cubic yards of soil. A vacuum blower will be used to induce air movement in the subsurface to volatilize contaminants and transport them to collection wells. Vapors extracted from the subsurface will be treated in an above-ground carbon system to remove contaminants.

The preferred cleanup plan for the MSA is *in situ* thermal treatment. This remedy will treat about 9,000 square feet of area from 10 to approximately 70 feet below ground by installing 17 heater-vacuum and 70 heater-only wells to raise the temperature of the subsurface to approximately 100 °C. Extracted contaminated fluids (groundwater) will be passed through a heat exchanger, NAPL separator, tray air stripper, and granular activated carbon to remove contaminants. Extracted vapors will be treated by passing them through a heat exchanger and activated carbon system.

For more information

EPA Remedial Project Manager

Beverly Stepter
(404) 562-8816

Stepter.Beverly@epa.gov

EPA Community Involvement Coordinator

Angela Miller
(404) 562-8561

Miller.Angela@epa.gov

EPA Site Web Page

<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/ram-leather>

We want your comments!

The EPA relies on public input to ensure the concerns of the community are considered in selecting an effective remedy for each Superfund Site. The public is encouraged to comment on the documents from:

May 15, 2018 – June 13, 2018

The preferred cleanup plan for the SSA is *in situ* thermal treatment and biobarrier. Similar to the remedy for the MSA, the SSA remedy would raise the temperature of the subsurface to treat contamination. The biobarrier will be created by injecting a carbon substrate such as emulsified oil into the subsurface to a depth of about 60 feet. Contaminants in groundwater will be destroyed as they pass through the barrier.

Institutional controls (i.e. limits to land and ground water use) will be placed on the property to reduce the likelihood that people would be exposed to contaminants in the future.

The existing water line will be extended eastward along Alvin Hough Road to provide municipal water to a residence where low concentrations of Site-related contaminants were identified in 2017 and nearby residences that could potentially be affected by Site-related contaminants in the future. This step is being taken as a precaution.

Background

The 10-acre Ram Leather Care Superfund Site, located at 15100 Albemarle Road, Charlotte, NC, is a former dry-cleaning facility that operated from 1977 until 1993 (Figure 1). The Site is in a rural residential area on the east side of Charlotte. Operations used chlorinated ethene compounds, primarily tetrachloroethene, and petroleum hydrocarbons (mineral spirits) in the cleaning process. These chemicals were stored on Site in drums and an above-ground storage tank from which leaks and spills were documented.

NPL and Remedial Investigation

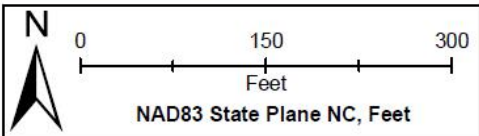
The Site was listed on the National Priorities List (NPL) in 2003. EPA began the Remedial Investigation in 1999 to determine the nature and extent of the contamination. Initial studies examined the extent of Site-related contamination in private drinking water wells near the Site. Municipal water was supplied to affected residences in 2004. Additional Site investigations supported an Interim Record of Decision (IROD) issued by EPA in 2004. The IROD addressed cleanup of contaminated soil and ground water as an interim action. Soil and ground water samples collected as part of subsequent investigations identified additional contamination not addressed by the 2004 interim action. Contaminants of concern (COCs) for potential risk based on direct human exposure were found only in groundwater (these contaminants could continue to leach from overlying soil and could potentially migrate to indoor air); no COCs were identified for soil, surface water or sediment based on direct human contact.

Public Comment

EPA relies on public input to ensure the concerns of the community are considered in selecting an effective remedy for each Superfund Site. **The public comment period runs from May 15, 2018, through June 13, 2018.** The Administrative Record and Information Repository for the Ram Leather Care Superfund Site, which includes the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study Reports, are located at the Mint Hill Branch Library, 6840 Matthews – Mint Hill Road in Mint Hill, NC.

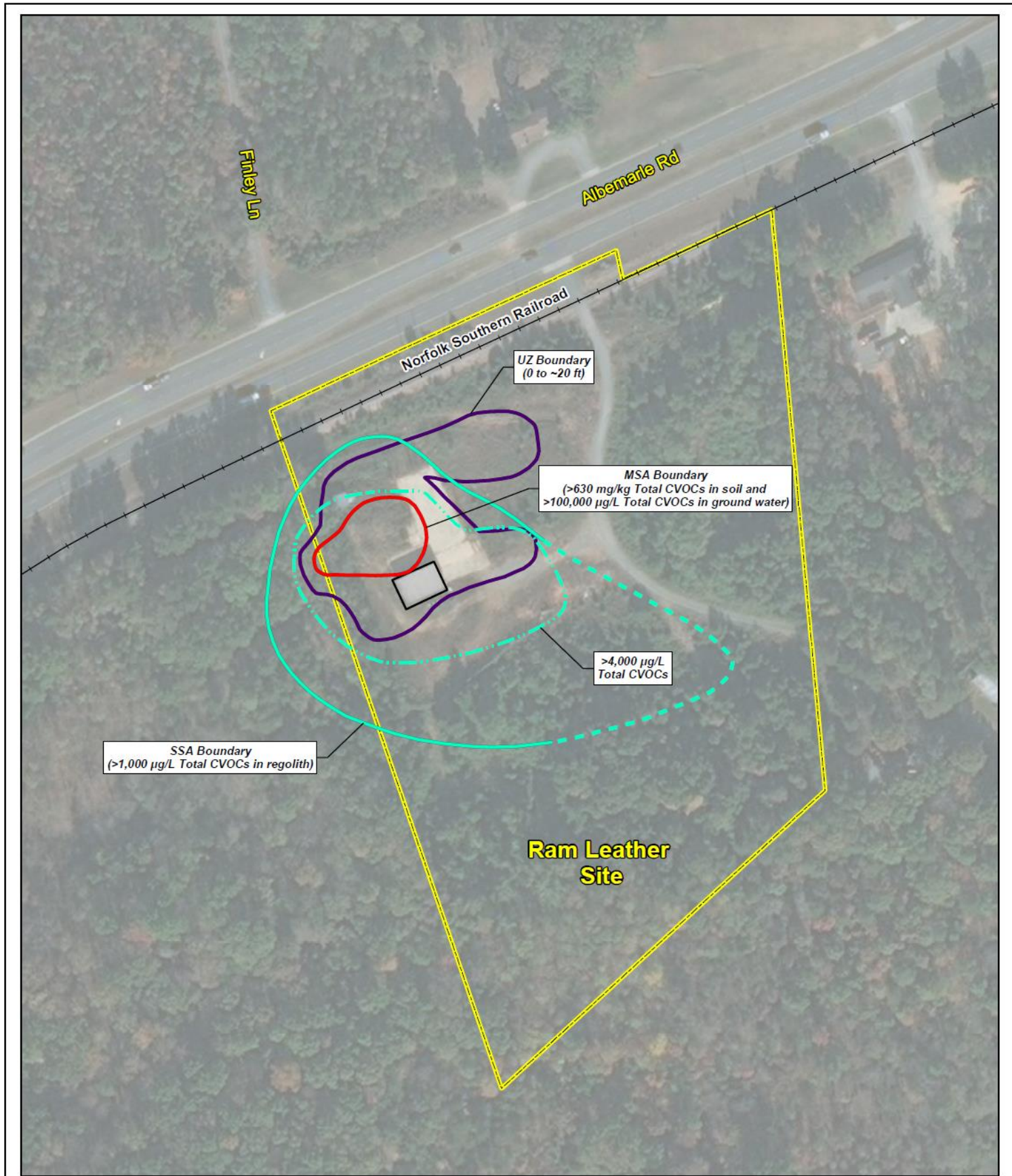
EPA will host a public meeting on **Tuesday, May 22, 2018, 6:00p.m., at the Fellowship Baptist Church located at 11416 Albemarle Road in Mint Hill.** Representatives from EPA will present the details of the Plan to address the environmental impacts at the Ram Leather Care Superfund Site, and answer any questions the public may have regarding the preferred cleanup remedy. You may email your comments to stepter.beverly@epa.gov or, if you prefer to submit written comments, please mail them to Beverly Stepter at US EPA, 61 Forsyth Street, SW, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303, **postmarked no later than June 13, 2018.**

After EPA has received comments and questions during the public comment period, EPA will summarize the comments and provide responses in the Responsiveness Summary which will be part of the Interim Record of Decision. The IROD will select the final remedial action and will provide the rationale of EPA's selection.

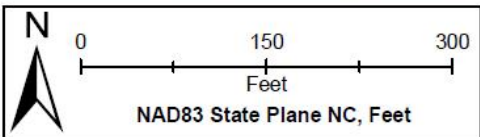


Site Features
Ram Leather Site
 Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

Figure 1



Ram Leather Site



CMZ Designations
Ram Leather Site
 Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

Figure 2