

NPL Site Narrative for Salem Acres

SALEM ACRES

Salem, Massachusetts

Conditions at proposal (October 15, 1984): The Salem Acres Site consists of four unlined, uncovered disposal pits on 162 acres of land in the Town of Salem, Essex County, Massachusetts. The site operated from 1946 to 1969. Wastes disposed of on-site include sludge, grit, and grease from a waste water treatment plant, as well as tannery waste. PCBs, methylene chloride, arsenic, and chromium are present in soils on the site, according to analyses conducted by EPA.

One of the disposal pits is approximately 20 feet from Strongwater Brook. The site lies on the divide of two drainage basins that channel both surface water and ground water directly into two major aquifers. The site is bounded on the south and east by residential housing. The owner has erected a gate on one of the access roads leading to the site. Approximately 2,500 people reside within 1 mile of the site.

Status (June 10, 1986): A party identified by the State as potentially responsible for wastes associated with the site erected a fence around the pits after receiving a notice letter from the State. EPA is searching for other potentially responsible parties. Late in 1985, EPA started to develop a workplan for a remedial investigation/feasibility study to determine the type and extent of contamination at the site and identify alternatives for remedial action.

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. ATSDR ToxFAQs can be found on the Internet at [ATSDR - ToxFAQs](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp>) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.