

# Colorado Smelter Site Update

Fall | Winter 2016



**COLORADO**  
Department of Public  
Health & Environment



1834139

## EPA Superfund Program Activities

In 2014, EPA added the Colorado Smelter site to the final National Priorities List. Since then, EPA, State and local health departments worked closely with Pueblo community members affected by the site to form the Community Advisory Group (CAG). In addition, EPA awarded the Pueblo City-County Health Department (PCCHD) a grant to start a lead investigations program. EPA provided the CAG a technical advisor under the Technical Assistance Services for Communities program. EPA successfully completed several activities that support the investigation and cleanup of Colorado Smelter Superfund site contamination.

As of November 2016 EPA activities include:

- **175 homes sampled indoors** for lead dust and other metals.
- **400 homes sampled outdoors** for lead and other metals in soil.
- **Time-critical removal action at 20 homes** (June – August 2016) for the cleanup of lead-contaminated interior dust.

EPA's next steps in 2017 will include:

- **Release of a proposed plan** for public comment, which describes residential cleanup options.
- **Documentation of the cleanup decision** – After considering public comments, the cleanup levels and remedy will be documented in an early action interim Record of Decision (ROD). After EPA issues the interim ROD, indoor cleanups will continue and outdoor cleanups will begin. In addition, residential property owners will be notified if sample results show a cleanup is needed at their property.
- **Revising and issuing the Quality Assurance Project Plan Amendment(s)** – These updates are necessary for residential sampling to continue and to allow city property sampling to begin.



## Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Activities

The State health department works collaboratively as a support agency to EPA and continues to provide technical and community involvement oversight and support, including drafting and reviewing various site documents for the Administrative Record. In 2016, the State health department:

- **Provided Supplemental funding to PCCHD** for blood lead investigations to broaden the program Pueblo-wide.
- **Mailed out over 2,500 Informational postcards** to ensure residents and property owners within preliminary study area have the latest site information and contacts.
- **Created a State Colorado Smelter website** now available for public use that includes the latest community meeting and public information tools. Website information is provided below.

## Pueblo City-County Health Department Lead Program Activities

The Pueblo City-County Health Department has completed a number of blood lead investigations, healthy homes assessments and outreach activities. As of November 2016 these include:

- **117 total blood lead screenings** in the Superfund preliminary study area.
- **19 healthy home screenings** in the Superfund preliminary study area.
- **9 elevated blood lead investigations** for people above 5 micrograms per deciliter. Includes both blood lead and healthy home screening.

PCCHD's 2017 plan includes:

- **Voluntary blood lead screenings** – In homes within the Superfund study area and those receiving indoor lead dust cleanups.
- **Healthy homes assessments and blood lead investigations** – In homes where elevated blood lead is identified and, in general, to assess risk of multiple sources of lead within the homes throughout the study area.
- **Community outreach and education** – At existing community events, to the Pueblo medical community and at the informational kiosk (corner of East Northern Avenue and Eilers Avenue). Stay tuned for the new billboard; the Renovation, Repair and Painting training program for landlords, contractors and homeowners; and the Summer Safety and Fun Fair annual community event.



## Colorado Smelter Revitalization Project

In 2015, the Colorado Smelter Revitalization Project (CSRP) management team and stakeholder workgroup sessions were held to consider community development opportunities, including the Community Advisory Vitalization workgroup recommendations. The CSRP is a long-term, multi-agency, collaborative initiative that not only looks at revitalizing the Colorado Smelter study area but also nearby areas. Highlights include:

- **Bimonthly meetings** to identify new partner organizations, finalize the CSRP strategic workplan and identifying resources to implement revitalization ideas.
- **Stakeholder workgroup meetings** held in June and October of 2016. The next meeting is planned for January 2017.
- **Planning** for a transportation future use workshop in 2017.

For more information, visit:

- **EPA Colorado Smelter Superfund website:**  
<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/colorado-smelter>
- **CDPHE Colorado Smelter Superfund website:**  
<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/colorado-smelter-superfund-site-public-information>
- **PCCHD lead program website:** <http://county.pueblo.org/government/county/departments/city-county-health-department/colorado-smelter>

**Your Community Advisory Group  
Meets the Second Tuesday of  
(nearly) each Month**

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.  
Steelworks Museum  
215 Canal Street, Pueblo

To get on our email notification list, contact:  
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*hablo español*

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