



EPA Finalizes Partial Deletion of Superfund Site from National List

South Minneapolis Residential Soil Contamination Site
Minneapolis, Minnesota

October 2019

We have appreciated the community's involvement and input throughout the cleanup and will continue to be available to the community for any concerns or questions.

Contact information

For more information about EPA's cleanup, partial deletion and remaining cleanup, contact these EPA team members:

For general EPA questions:

Cheryl Allen

Community Involvement Coordinator
312-353-6196
allen.cheryl@epa.gov

For questions about EPA's partial deletion:

Karen Cibulskis

Remedial Project Manager
312-886-1843
cibulskis.karen@epa.gov

For questions about EPA's cleanup:

Howard Caine

Remedial Project Manager
312-353-9685
caine.howard@epa.gov

Call EPA toll-free at 800-621-8431,
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., weekdays, or visit:
www.epa.gov/superfund/south-minneapolis-soil

Other concerns

For additional information and concerns with any of the commercial/industrial properties that are located within the South Minneapolis site area but that are not part of the Superfund site, contact:

Cathy Villas-Horns

Minnesota Agriculture Department
651-201-6697

Daniel Peña

Minnesota Health Department
651-201-4920

Thomas Frame

City of Minneapolis
612-673-5807

Hmong, Somali and Spanish translations of this fact sheet are available at www.epa.gov/superfund/south-minneapolis-soil

After nearly 15 years of investigation, cleanup and monitoring of the South Minneapolis Residential Soil Contamination site in Minneapolis, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized a partial deletion of the site from the federal National Priorities List, or NPL. The NPL is a roster of contaminated areas that are eligible for cleanup under EPA's Superfund program. All but nine of about 3,632 residential and residential-type properties (such as parks, schools, playgrounds associated with church schools and a cemetery) located within the South Minneapolis site have been deleted from the NPL. These properties have been deleted because they have been cleaned up or cleared for residential use. The nine residential properties that have not been cleaned up or still require sampling due to access issues will remain on the NPL. It is important to note that because EPA is only deleting part of the South Minneapolis site from the NPL, EPA will still maintain a federal presence at the site. EPA will also continue to review the site cleanup every five years until the nine residential properties remaining on the NPL are sampled and cleaned up as necessary for residential use.

Site background

The South Minneapolis Residential Soil Contamination site is in the area surrounding Hiawatha Avenue and 28th Street (*see map on back*). The Superfund site includes all residential and residential-type properties located in a three quarter-mile radius of the CMC Heartland site. The CMC Heartland property is a former pesticide manufacturing plant that made arsenic-based pesticides. Experts believe during plant operations powder-like arsenic trioxide was periodically blown by the wind off-site into the surrounding neighborhoods, which resulted in contaminated soil.

Please note: The South Minneapolis site does not include the CMC Heartland site, which is being managed by the Minneapolis Department of Agriculture under state Superfund authority. The South Minneapolis site also does not include the Roof Depot property or any of the other commercial/industrial properties located in the South Minneapolis site area.

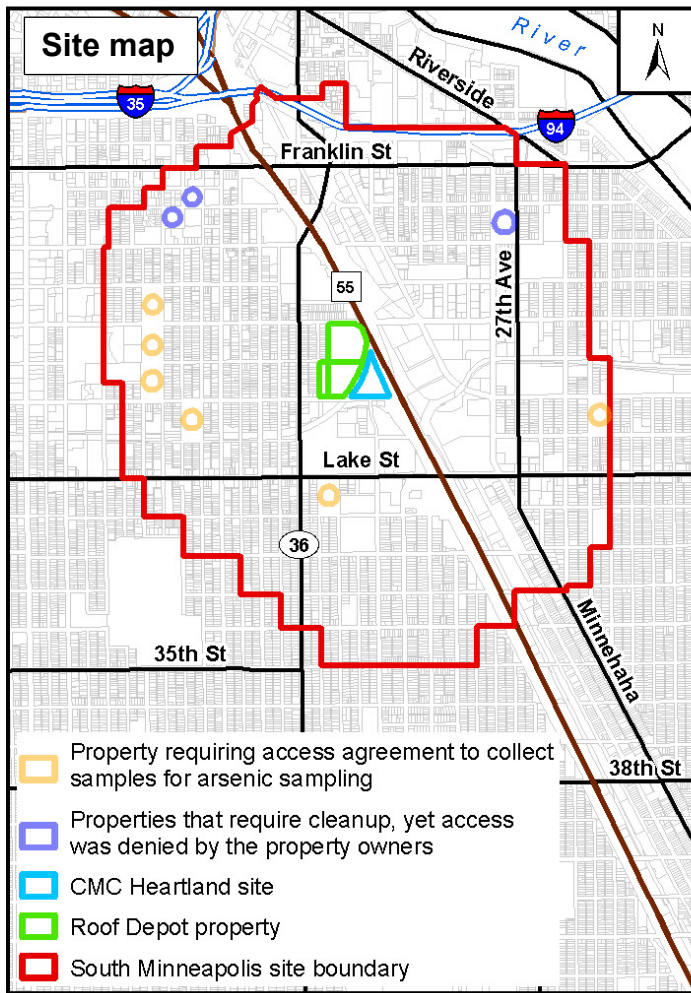
Where was the cleanup done?

EPA sampled soil in most residential and residential-like properties within the South Minneapolis site boundary area and cleaned up yards where arsenic levels in soil were higher than 25 parts arsenic per million parts soil, or parts per million. The map on the back shows the site boundary where properties were cleaned up or cleared for residential use and the nine properties within that area that still require sampling or cleanup. Because commercial and industrial properties in the area are not part of the site, they were not sampled or cleaned by EPA.

Comments on the deletion

EPA held a 30-day comment period on the proposed deletion of the site from the NPL. The general comments and petitions EPA received during the comment period and EPA's response to each are summarized below:

ISSUE 1: Requests to delay partial deletion and keep the Roof Depot property and other industrial properties in the site area on the NPL. EPA recognizes the community's concerns that the South Minneapolis site be protected from any subsequent releases of arsenic that may be present under the Roof Depot property and other industrial buildings when these properties are redeveloped. However, the investigation, cleanup, redevelopment, oversight and any protective measures to be used during construction on these properties are subject to applicable state and local regulations and are outside the scope of the NPL listing of the South Minneapolis site.




ISSUE 2: Request for public meetings to answer questions about arsenic contamination and what has and has not been cleaned up. EPA determined the most effective way to provide information to all households and other community members in the South Minneapolis site area is to develop and mail this fact sheet.

ISSUE 3: How can EPA partially delete the site from the NPL without completing an Environmental Assessment Worksheet? EPA did not complete an Environmental Assessment Worksheet because these assessments are administered by the state of Minnesota and are not an EPA requirement. Instead, EPA is required to provide the state of Minnesota with an opportunity to review the proposed partial deletion, and EPA must obtain the state’s concurrence on the partial deletion, which it did.

ISSUE 4: EPA’s timing of the proposed partial deletion coinciding with the city’s redevelopment of the Roof Depot property. EPA published its proposed partial deletion of the South Minneapolis site in the *Federal Register* in July 2019. Any timing between EPA’s and city of Minneapolis activities is coincidental.

EPA’s complete response to the comments and petitions received can be found in a document called a “Responsiveness Summary,” which can be found online at www.epa.gov/superfund/south-minneapolis-soil.

Because the comments and petitions EPA received during the public comment period did not pertain to the technical or administrative merits of EPA’s proposed partial deletion of the South Minneapolis site, EPA went forward with the partial deletion, which became effective on Sept. 30, 2019.

Reproduced on Recycled Paper 

SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS RESIDENTIAL SOIL CONTAMINATION SITE: EPA Finalizes Partial Deletion of Superfund Site from National List

United States
Environmental Protection
Agency
Region 5
Community Involvement and
Outreach Section (RE-6J)
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

