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Amcast

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
PLAN

December 2022

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Appendix B - Information Repository, Administrative Record, Website & Public Meetings: Places where community members can find more information about the site and possible meeting locations.

Appendix C - Community Interview Questions: Questions asked during community interviews.

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Appendix E - Community Engagement in the Superfund Process: EPA’s step-by-step process to determine the best way to clean up contaminated sites and opportunities for community involvement.

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Appendix G - Environmental Justice: Environmental Justice and U.S. EPA’s commitment to the affected communities.

INTRODUCTION

Describes the purpose of this CIP, shares EPA’s goal on Environmental Justice, presents EPA’s community outreach objectives and provides a brief history of the site.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency prepared this **Community Involvement Plan**, or **CIP** to inform, engage and support the communities near the Amcast Industrial Corporation site located in Cedarburg, Wisconsin. A CIP was done in 2012, but because that was over 10 years ago, we prepared a new CIP for the site. Our **community involvement** effort is committed to promoting effective and meaningful communication between the public and the Agency. We want to make sure that (1) members of the affected communities know and understand when and how they can participate in decision-making during the **cleanup** activities at this site and (2) the communities’ concerns and information needs are considered and addressed as activities at the site progress.

The CIP is a working document that will evolve as the investigation and cleanup process continues and input is received from the community. It is intended to be flexible, adaptable and used as a guideline for our communication with the community.

This CIP was prepared to support environmental and cleanup activities at and near the Amcast site. We used several information sources to develop this plan, including research, discussions with community members and information gathered at community interviews. U.S. EPA scheduled in-person interviews with community members at the Cedarburg City Hall located at W63N645 Washington Avenue in Cedarburg, Wisconsin. We conducted interviews with 25 individuals between November 2 and 4, 2022. Interviewees included local residents, local officials, members of local community groups and other parties interested in activities and cleanup efforts.

*(Words in **bold** are defined in Appendix A.)*

U.S. EPA’s Community Outreach Objectives:

- Assist the public in understanding the decision-making process during the investigation and cleanup and the community’s role in that process.
- Give the public accessible, accurate, timely and understandable information about the project as it moves forward.
- Ensure adequate time and opportunity for the public to give informed and meaningful input and for that input to be considered.
- Reflect community concerns, questions and information needs.
- Respect and fully consider public input throughout the entire process.

This CIP describes EPA’s plan for addressing concerns and keeping residents informed and involved in investigation and cleanup activities at the site. We will use this document as a guide to involve and communicate with residents, businesses and the local governments in the city of Cedarburg.

If you are interested in submitting comments or have questions or suggestions concerning this CIP, please contact:

Phil Gurley
Community Involvement Coordinator
U.S. EPA Region 5
312-886-4448
gurley.philip@epa.gov

Environmental Justice

The Environmental Justice Act of 1992 obligates federal agencies to make **environmental justice** part of its overall mission by “identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations.” Following this order, the Office of Environmental Equity within EPA became the Office of Environmental Justice.

EPA’s Office of Environmental Justice ensures that all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, enjoy the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards and equal access to the decision-making process for a healthy living, learning, and work environment. Ensuring environmental justice means not only protecting human health and the environment for everyone, but also

U.S. EPA has this goal for all communities and persons across this nation. It will be achieved when everyone enjoys:

- the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards, and
- equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn and work.

ensuring all people are treated fairly and are given the opportunity to participate meaningfully in the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

When making decisions about a cleanup and planning its community involvement initiative for a community, environmental justice issues must be considered. As part of this effort, EPA collaborates with state agencies, representatives from the city of Cedarburg and concerned residents in addressing environmental challenges in more effective, efficient and sustainable ways.

For more information on Environmental Justice, visit <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice>

Community Engagement in Superfund Cleanups

Ongoing input and involvement by the community are essential to our efforts to provide effective **community engagement**. We have learned that the Agency's decision-making ability is enhanced by actively seeking input and information from the community. Community members need to be involved in all phases of the investigation and cleanup so that the **contamination** is addressed in a way that protects people and the environment – now and in the future.

Residents, business owners and local government officials may be able to provide valuable information about a hazardous site that can help us determine the best way to clean it up. Information can help determine the location of contamination, how people may be exposed to the contamination and perhaps sources of the contamination.

Local residents educated EPA about their community and told EPA about their concerns, which are explained in the *Community Concerns and Questions* section beginning on the next page.



The owners and developers of Amcast, Drake Consulting, give EPA, WDNR, Cedarburg officials, and media a tour of the Amcast site.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND QUESTIONS

Summarizes what community members are concerned about, the questions they asked and what they told EPA.

What We Heard

This section focuses on the concerns and issues that EPA heard from community members about the site.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency **Community Involvement Coordinator** Phil Gurley and EPA **Remedial Project Manager** Zack Sasnow spoke with 21 residents and four local elected officials from the city of Cedarburg, Wisconsin. EPA also spoke with the owners and redevelopers of the Superfund property and two environmental business owners from out of state. All but two of the interviews with residents and local officials were conducted in person at Cedarburg City Hall from November 2 through 4, 2022.

Note to readers: This section is intended to faithfully record and reflect the issues and concerns expressed to EPA by residents and others interviewed during the community interviews. By necessity, this is a collection and summary of thoughts and observations and, in some cases, opinions. Please be cautioned that the statements contained in this section may or may not be factual and that the opinions and concerns expressed may or may not be valid. Based on the discussions, the same questions were not asked of all interviewees.

To prepare for the community interviews, EPA mailed out a fact sheet to community members listed on a site mailing list comprised of residents and businesses from the neighborhoods surrounding the site and local, state and federal officials. During the interviews, EPA asked for updated addresses from residents who did not receive a fact sheet. EPA also requested emails from interviewees so EPA could establish an email distribution list.

Everyone interviewed was either a resident, a past resident renting out a property, or a local official, aside from the out-of-state environmental business owners. All interviewees spoke English as their primary language. Most residents interviewed have lived in the area for 15 years or more. One resident moved to the area in the past 5 years, while three residents indicated they have lived in Cedarburg their entire lives. All residents, property owners and local officials EPA spoke with were aware of the site before receiving EPA's mailing. However, most of the residents indicated they were unaware of the status of the cleanup at the site.

Aside from the elected city officials, two interviewees were associated with the local fire department, one resident was active in a city organization, and one previously served on the city council.

Community Concerns

Interviewees expressed several concerns about the Amcast site. These concerns are presented below.

Soil

Many residents inquired about the cleanup of soil. A few residents and city officials wondered how the soil would be cleaned up and how deep the excavations would go. All but one resident with prior soil sampling (conducted by Amcast) were unaware of their residential PCB results, and the city officials said they thought Amcast relayed that information to residents. One resident expressed concern about the depth of PCB contamination in soil. A few residents asked if EPA plans on retesting residential soil before beginning the cleanup process. Two residents inquired about the range of PCB detections in soil from the last sampling

event. One resident asked about the soil sampling process. Two residents mentioned the adjacent property across the railroad tracks had also been contaminated by Amcast; the adjacent property owner was surprised the current EPA team did not know about this contamination. A few residents asked if documentation with sampling results could be found on EPA’s website for Amcast.

Health

City officials and a couple of residents asked about the health effects on children if contact with contaminated soil occurs. One resident stated both their dogs got cancer and passed away and inquired if it was from the contaminated soil. One resident asked, “How do we know if we are in danger?” Another resident asked, “Besides not having a garden, are there any other precautions we should take?” Two residents who lived near Amcast when the site was active were concerned about future health effects from site contamination – they said soot would cover cars and windowsills, and they were concerned about what they were breathing in “back in the day”. These residents also asked if they should bring up health concerns during the public comment period. One resident associated with the local fire department expressed concern about possible health effects from past emergency response practice dives into the quarry pond.

Communication

A few of the residents said they felt they were inadequately informed about the Site. One resident stated it was confusing because there are a few environmental investigations occurring in Cedarburg and it feels like they all get lumped together. That resident also said it was hard to know the difference between the Amcast site and the Cedar Creek site. A couple of other residents also stated they were confused about the separation between Amcast and Cedar Creek. Many residents also had questions about what areas were included in the Amcast site and what portions were considered “Amcast North” and “Amcast South.” One resident said if needed, they could help community members interact with the government through an organization called “Friends of Historic Cedarburg.” A few residents said that while they didn’t feel well informed prior to the interview, their questions from a while back now have been answered and were thankful for EPA talking with residents. A couple of residents also said EPA did a good job promoting the community interviews.

Timeliness

City officials stated they hope to build increments on south portions of Amcast and maybe some on the south portion before or during remediation. City officials and a few residents also inquired about when construction could begin on site.

City officials suggested cleanup be phased so development could begin quicker. Many residents inquired about what areas would be cleaned up first and how long the entire cleanup would take. One resident asked if the contamination worsens as time goes on. Most residents expressed concern about the time it has taken to begin cleanup and development at the site. One resident asked, “Why was there a 6- to 8-year hiatus of nothing, a flurry of activity a year ago, then nothing again?” One



Overview of Amcast North.

resident questioned if they should even expect cleanup to happen.

Appearance of the site

Most of the residents and city officials stated they were bothered by the site's appearance and frustrated that nothing seemed to be going on with the development of the site. One resident stated they will begin to make complaints to the city council, so they can put pressure on the developer to begin work. A few residents stated the developer should at least clean up around the site – residents said there is garbage and debris, and the building is falling apart. City officials stated they wanted to at least see some landscaping in the areas not planned for remediation to help public perception.

Demolition and site development

Three people expressed concern about airborne contamination during the demolition of the Amcast South building. One resident said clouds of dust were coming from the Amcast facility during demolition 3 to 4 years ago. This resident wondered if there were asbestos issues during that time. This resident also wondered if precautions to protect residents will be put in place during future demolitions/development. Another resident stated they tested the dust with an at-home lead test kit and found it to be positive for lead. That same resident stated they felt the site isn't managed well and the developer is unprofessional; they said they understand the developer isn't EPA's problem, but it adds to the problem of the site and they feel like there isn't trust.

The quarry

Six residents, including the fire department interviewees, and the city officials expressed concern about the impact of the contamination in the quarry. People were concerned about the impact on the surface water and sediments and risks to recreation. Three residents suggested the signage near the quarry indicating it was contaminated was too small. Residents and city officials stated they hoped to see the quarry cleaned up to recreation cleanup levels and the park be used more often. One interviewee associated with the local fire department expressed concern about past emergency response preparedness dives into the quarry and wondered about best practices and updated safety recommendations.



The quarry located in Zeunert Park.

Cost of cleanup

City officials expressed concern about the money spent for Site development. They said they want to offset tax increment financing, or TIF, costs. One city official stated the development delays were affecting the city's budget. A few residents and city officials wondered how the cleanup will be funded and where that money will come from. A few residents and a city official asked if the Superfund money was even available. Two residents questioned how the developer was spending the money he received from the city and said the city council is receiving many complaints about how the money is being spent.

Home values

A few residents indicated they were worried about their housing values. One resident said it would be tough for anyone to sell their property. Three residents who rented out homes in the area worried about retaining tenants and how to relay information about Amcast to tenants. One resident stated the home values went up along Cedar Creek after it was cleaned up and hopes the Amcast cleanup will have a similar effect.

Cleanup levels

Residents and city officials were concerned about what cleanup levels were being used for soil and sediment cleanup. One resident specifically asked how the cleanup levels correlated to the contamination in their backyard, and city officials stated they hoped the Amcast site would be remediated to residential cleanup levels. One resident asked what a residential level meant. Another resident asked what the acceptable levels of PCBs in soil are.

Contaminants

A city official asked about the primary contaminant from the Amcast site. One resident stated the roof had collapsed at the Amcast building and the basement was flooded – they wondered what kind of contamination was in the water and building materials. A few residents questioned if asbestos was used in old building materials.

Plants and gardens

Three people EPA spoke with voiced concern about growing at-home gardens. They wondered if the contamination in the soil could impact their plants and if they could eat vegetables grown in a garden.

Drinking water

Two of the residents we spoke with expressed concern about their drinking water and asked if their water is safe to drink.

Engaging the Community

Comments people expressed during the community interviews about outreach activities associated with the site include:

Post information online

Community members recommended EPA keep its website up to date and provide information to the city officials to be posted on the city of Cedarburg's Facebook page and website. When EPA asked people if they were aware of EPA's website, three residents and all the officials said they were aware of the website, and five residents indicated they did not know there was a website. Some of the comments about the website included: "It is hard to navigate" and "Updated documents are not in the online records."

Create contact lists

Most people said they preferred to receive information via email or standard mail. People provided EPA with updated addresses and emails to receive information.

Prepare fact sheets

Community members suggested EPA provide fact sheets to the city of Cedarburg and its residents. People also said EPA should continue to mail the fact sheets out to the mailing list because many people still get the information that way.

Establish information repositories & administrative record

One resident said they would go to the library to look at information about the site, but all residents asked indicated online access to information and documents was sufficient.

Conduct public meetings

Everyone EPA spoke with said they would attend a public meeting about the site. Several residents and the officials of Cedarburg said EPA should offer a virtual meeting option, but all said they would attend in person if they could. All residents and officials asked said the gym near City Hall would be the best location to hold a public meeting. A couple of residents mentioned announcing the meetings through various means. Most people said weekdays were the best days to hold meetings and evenings were the best time.

Additional outreach suggestions

Interviewees also provided the following additional suggestions for community outreach:

City officials and several residents said they thought it was important to use as many means as possible to reach people and not to rely on one method. One resident suggested door knocking might be an effective means to get people information.

Questions Interviewees Asked U.S. EPA

U.S. EPA will respond to these questions in fact sheets, email updates or at public meetings.



EPA CIC and RPM conducted an interview with a City Council Member at the Cedarburg City Hall.

Site status/timeline

- What is going on with the site?
- What is the investigation and cleanup process moving forward?
- How long will the cleanup take?
- What are the next steps?
- How high or low is Amcast on the priority list?
- What areas of the site are getting cleaned first?

Cleanup and site boundaries

- What is the risk level? What are the cleanup levels?
- How does the cleanup level correlate to the results from the soil in my yard?
- How will EPA remediate the soil?
- What portions of the property are contaminated?
- Why aren't the properties downwind of the south end of Amcast contaminated? Were those properties tested?
- How deep did the contamination go – are there any issues with the houses themselves?
- Do you think the Quarry will be usable for recreation?
- What makes you think there was no movement of PCBs from the sanitary sewer to the wastewater treatment plant?
- What is the difference between the Cedar Creek cleanup and the Amcast cleanup?
- Do the online documents include testing results?
- What is an acceptable amount of PCB in soil?
- Would the PCB levels have gone down in the last 20 years?
- What was the range of PCB detections in the soil?
- What are the ponds that are included in the cleanup?
- Will you remove trees on residential properties?
- Would someone at the bottom of the hill have a higher level of PCB than at the top because of stormwater? Or will there be higher impacts closer to the Amcast property?
- Is the site continuing to contaminate properties downhill?
- Will you retest the site and residences once the record of decision (**ROD**) is in place?
- What is the process for soil sampling?
- Does the site include Zeunert Park?
- Was there asbestos found during the building demolition?
- Will the ponds be cleaned up similarly to Cedar Creek?
- Have you previously sampled residential areas?
- Did some residents refuse access for testing?
- Will you empty the entire Quarry during the dredging process?
- Are you removing the pipes from the sewers so no more contamination can flow offsite?
- Do the property owners with contamination in their yards receive compensation?
- What happens when a property owner refuses access for cleanup?
- Has Drake Consulting done the required cleanup?
- Is it safe now for people to touch the water in the Quarry? How safe is the water right now from an occasional recreation standpoint?
- Is the demolition causing any airborne contamination?
- What does a residential cleanup level mean?
- Is EPA's proposed plan of cleanup or development?

- Is EPA or WDNR the lead for cleanup?
- Should citizens be concerned about the drinking water or water used in homes?
- Is the water supply contaminated?
- What kind of contamination was in the pooled water in the Amcast building and in the building materials?
- How do we state our soil is contaminated if we want to sell our property?
- Would PCBs stay there forever if they were not removed?
- Will it be possible to request a test for my property since other properties had detectable results around my property?
- What should we do if we have to enter the Quarry for emergency response? What safety precautions should we take?
- Where are the hot spots in the Quarry?
- When you dredge, where do the fish go?
- Is the plan residential or industrial cleanup?
- What is the primary contaminant?

Site development

- Why is the developer/owner not doing anything with the property?
- When do you think construction can occur onsite?
- Is the developer/owner capable of developing the site?
- Is there anything we should know about the developer/the development of the site?
- Would the sanitary sewer line be contaminated?
- What is the development status of Amcast?
- Will you excavate soil on residential properties? How deep will you excavate?
- Will there be precautions to protect residents during redevelopment?
- Can the developer begin any work without EPA's approval?
- Can some of Amcast South be developed?
- Who owns the Site now? Who did he purchase it from?
- Why was the demolition partial?
- You have nothing to do with lighting a fire under the developer?
- What is the delay? Is it the EPA or is it the developer?
- Can the developer landscape around the Amcast building?
- Can the ROD be phased so the easy parcels are cleaned up sooner rather than later so we can get development going sooner?

Cost

- Was the city crazy to do TIF?
- How is the cleanup funded and where is the money coming from?

Health

- Can we plant gardens and eat the vegetables?
- What are the negative effects of the cleanup activities?
- If there were toxins in my soil/water, what are the issues we could face down the road?
- If we have concerns health-wise, do we bring that up during the public comment period?
- Even if you were getting sick from this, Amcast won't have responsibility?

General

- What is considered Amcast North and what is Amcast South?
- What is the time spent on each step of the Superfund process?
- Are documents you're sharing with us online or available in email/PDFs? Is there somewhere we can check up to see the progress?
- How much does the DNR factor into this?
- Is there any long-term plan to use the site as something that contributes something positive? Is the space going to be developed into housing? Can we add something positive to the community after damaging it?
- When will the public comment period be? When will the public meeting be?
- How do I submit a formal comment?
- What are you looking for from the residents?
- Who are the responsible parties?
- What is the general consensus of the public?
- Should we make past tenants aware of Amcast?
- For current tenants, should we notify them of the site/cleanup process?
- When do you go to bid after ROD?
- Is there anything we can do as a city government to speed things along? Should we encourage citizens to contact EPA and come to meetings?
- Will people want to move into residential homes on a former superfund site?
- Has there been a lot of community interest?
- When did Amcast go bankrupt?
- What do you need from me?
- Who received the mailers?
- Have you done other work here in Cedarburg?

What is Special About Your Community?

When asked what was special about their community, people said:

- It is a close-knit, very connected community
- Everyone watches out for each other
- There is a great sense of community
- It is safe
- I feel very connected to my neighborhood
- I can walk everywhere
- We have a very good school district
- There is a lot going on for a smaller city
- Charming and affordable
- Close to Milwaukee
- Great place to raise a family
- Lots of festivals and events
- Historical city
- Lots of wildlife and many parks
- A place people want to visit
- Exceedingly high quality of life
- City works hard to maintain a local feel

- Residents are committed to the community



The historic Interurban Bridge. This bridge was built by Carnegie Steel in 1907 for the Milwaukee Northern Railway, which ran from Milwaukee to Sheboygan until 1940.



Downtown Cedarburg along Washington Avenue (November 2022).

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Highlights EPA's goals, activities and timeline to keep community members and local officials informed and involved.

When establishing the objectives for a site-specific community involvement program, we consider several factors, including federal requirements and EPA policy that assess the nature and extent of known or perceived site contaminants and known community concerns and requests.

Community involvement is the process of engaging in dialogue and collaboration with community members. The goal of Superfund community involvement is to advocate and strengthen early and meaningful community participation during Superfund cleanups.

To be effective, our community involvement program is designed to meet the community's need to know, give information in a timely manner and accommodate the community's interests and its willingness to participate in decision-making processes. We must also share information in language the public can understand.

To meet the needs of the community and respond to information obtained during discussions and community interviews conducted with residents and other community members in November 2022 and to meet federal requirements, we have established the following objectives for our community involvement efforts:

- Enlist the support, coordination and involvement of the city of Cedarburg officials and community leaders.
- Monitor community interest in the site and respond accordingly.
- Keep the community well informed of ongoing and planned site activities.
- Explain technical site activities and findings in an understandable format for community members.
- Get public input on key decisions.
- Change planned activities, where warranted, based on community input.
- Update EPA's website regularly and provide useful information on it for the community.
- Update the city of Cedarburg officials on a periodic basis even if no activities are occurring at the site.
- Hold **public meetings**, when necessary, within the community to give all residents an opportunity to attend.

EPA has or will put in place the activities described on the following pages to meaningfully and actively engage the community in decisions regarding the investigation and cleanup of the Amcast site. The following plan is intended as an opportunity for communication between the community and EPA to occur and address key concerns and questions raised during the discussions and community interviews conducted in November 2022.

Specific Community Involvement Activities

To meet federal requirements and address community concerns and questions described in the Community Concerns section, EPA has conducted (or will conduct) the activities described below. Through these activities, it is our goal to inform, involve and engage the community during site cleanup decisions and efforts. As the needs of the community change, we will modify the community involvement strategies to address them.

Maintain Point of Contact

Phil Gurley is the primary liaison between EPA and the community. Mr. Gurley serves as the point of contact for community members and fields general questions about the site. For technical site issues, he coordinates with EPA's RPM for the site, Zack Sasnow.

We will include current contact information for the project staff on all written and electronic information and will notify the community of any contact information changes.

EPA has designated the following people as primary site contacts for local residents:

Phil Gurley

Community Involvement Coordinator

312-886-4448

gurley.philip@epa.gov

Zack Sasnow

Remedial Project Manager

312-886-0258

sasnow.zachary@epa.gov

They can also be reached weekdays toll-free at 800-621-8431 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Establish a Toll-free Number for Residents to Ask Questions and Receive Information

Mr. Gurley (ext. 64448) and Mr. Sasnow (ext. 60258) are located in the Chicago office and can be reached using the toll-free number listed in the box above. Ask for them by name or use the telephone extensions listed above. Residents can call these numbers as questions or concerns arise instead of waiting for a public meeting or to receive written information. We will provide the toll-free number periodically in local newspaper advertisements and include the toll-free number in all fact sheets and all our other communications with the public.

Maintain Communication with Local Officials, Agencies and Community Members.

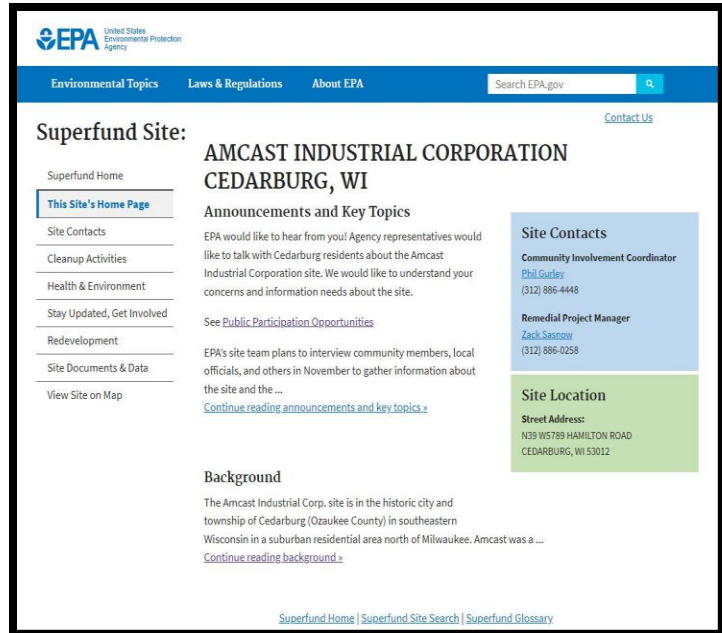
We will maintain communication with the local officials throughout the investigation and cleanup process. We also interviewed community residents and will continue to update residents on the progress at the site.

Share Site Information on the Internet

We will provide information on activities and post communications on the following EPA website. The website will be updated as events occur.

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/amcast-industrial>

Community members interviewed recommended that EPA use local Facebook pages to reach people as well as the city website and email and mail distribution lists. See Appendix C for a list of interested parties EPA will provide information to post on their sites and/or distribute to their members electronically.



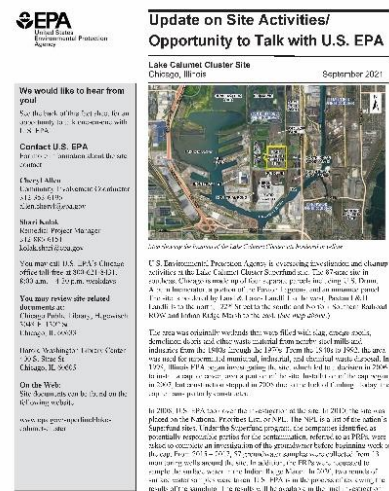
Update and Maintain the Site Mailing List

We have established a mailing list of local community members, organizations, businesses and officials for the site. This list will be used for mailing fact sheets, site updates, invitations to public meetings and events and other site-related information mailed to the community. We will update the list regularly to reflect address changes and changes in elected officials and to add new people interested in site activities.

We use the site mailing list to distribute written information such as fact sheets and meeting notifications. This is a way to ensure that those that do not have access to the Internet or other information sources still have a way to receive information directly about the site and are notified about important meetings. The mailing list is for EPA use only and is not shared with outside entities. If a community member is interested in being placed on the mailing list, they can contact Phil Gurley.

Prepare and Distribute Fact Sheets and Site Updates

We will prepare and distribute fact sheets, letters and site updates to those on the site mailing and e-mail lists summarizing current information about the site and describing upcoming activities. These documents are written in non-technical language and are typically published to coincide with important site activities. These fact sheets will be posted on EPA's website and will be printed and distributed to locations in the community. People interviewed provided EPA with numerous locations throughout the neighborhoods to distribute written materials including local organizations, community centers, churches, schools, libraries, etc. Those locations are listed under neighborhood organizations in Appendix C.



We use these types of documents to give the community detailed information in a relatively quick, simple and easy-to-understand manner. In addition to being shared with individuals on the site mailing list, we also

place the fact sheets and site updates in the **information repository** and post them on U.S. EPA's website: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/amcast-industrial>

Establish and Maintain a Site-specific Information Repository

We have set up a local information repository for the site at the following locations:



Cedarburg Public Library.

Cedarburg City Hall
W63 N645 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012

Cedarburg Public Library
W63 N583 Hanover Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012

The repository is a collection of site information available to the public for reading and printing. Documents include fact sheets, technical reports, the CIP, general Superfund information and other documents. EPA adds new documents about the site as the documents become available. Information repositories give residents local access to site information in forms that can be easily read and printed for future use. Most people said they would likely use the EPA website to retrieve information about the site, but one person stated they might use the library. An online information repository is also available on the site's web page <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/amcast-industrial> to access information electronically.

Establish and Maintain the Administrative Record

A copy of the **administrative record** for the site can be found at the repositories listed above, at the EPA Region 5 Superfund Records Center in Chicago (see Appendix B), and also on the site webpage. We will update the administrative record as necessary. The administrative record gives residents a paper trail of all documents the EPA relied on, or considered, to reach decisions about the site cleanup.

Conduct Public Meetings, Hearings and Information Sessions

A public meeting is an opportunity for EPA to present specific information and a proposed course of action. Meetings may either be held in person or virtually. EPA staff is available to share information and answer questions. A public meeting is not a formal public hearing where testimony is received. Instead, it might be a meeting to exchange information or comments. In addition, we may hold an informal open-house style meeting, called an availability session, where residents can meet EPA experts one-on-one to discuss the activities at the site. Either type of meeting allows community members an opportunity to express their concerns and ask questions of the Agency, state or local government officials. Public meetings or availability sessions can be held at various times throughout the investigation and cleanup process. We typically schedule a meeting when there are technical milestones or when the community has expressed an interest in having a meeting.

A public hearing is a formal meeting where we hear the public's views and concerns about an EPA action or proposal. There are specific regulations about when the Agency is required to consider such comments when evaluating its actions. Public hearings are recorded by a professional transcriber and become part of the administrative record. The comments are also posted on the Web.

EPA will consider conducting additional meetings at different times and different locations throughout the community to give all residents an opportunity to attend as needed. Most residents said the gym next to Cedarburg City Hall would be the best location to hold a meeting.

Participate in Local Events

On occasion, neighborhood or community groups will request EPA's participation in events to provide site information and respond to resident concerns. EPA considers invitations and offers to speak to community groups based on the event's ability to meaningfully reach members of the public. During our community interviews, residents suggested that EPA participate at events as appropriate.

Provide Additional Tools for Communities as Needed

There are additional programs that can be helpful to the community if there is a need for them. Two of these programs are the **Technical Assistance Services for Communities**, or **TASC**, and the **Technical Assistance Grant**, or **TAG**. The TASC program supplies communities with technical help so they can better understand the science, regulations and policies of environmental issues and EPA actions. TAGs provide money for activities that help communities participate in decision-making at eligible Superfund sites. For more information on these and other programs available, visit www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-technical-assistance-communities

Write and Distribute News Releases and Public Notices

We will prepare and release announcements to the local newspaper such as the *News Graphic*. to share information about events such as significant site investigation findings, **public comment periods**, public meetings and completion of major milestones such as the proposal of a cleanup plan. We will also provide this information to the city officials for posting on the city website as well as publishing in any community newsletters.

News releases allow us to reach large audiences quickly. U.S. EPA will issue news releases and public notices as site activities progress. We will put copies of the news releases and public notices in the site information and post the news releases on the website, <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/amcast-industrial>.

Evaluate Community Involvement and Outreach Efforts and Make Adjustments as Warranted

This CIP was designed to consider site- and community-specific factors as well as to comply with federal requirements. This CIP summarizes community concerns gathered during discussions and interviews with local residents and other community members. Based on that information, EPA has developed the objectives of the community involvement program for the site and some specific activities to address these concerns. We recognize that changes in areas, such as community perceptions, information needs and population demographics can occur over time and that such changes may necessitate a revised approach to conducting community involvement activities. For this reason, as well as to determine whether the activities in this revised plan are achieving their intended objectives, we will conduct periodic reviews to determine whether additional activities are warranted or whether changes to the activities outlined in this plan are

necessary. As the needs of the community change, we will modify the community involvement strategies to address them in a CIP revision.

The following page presents the status of the activities above.

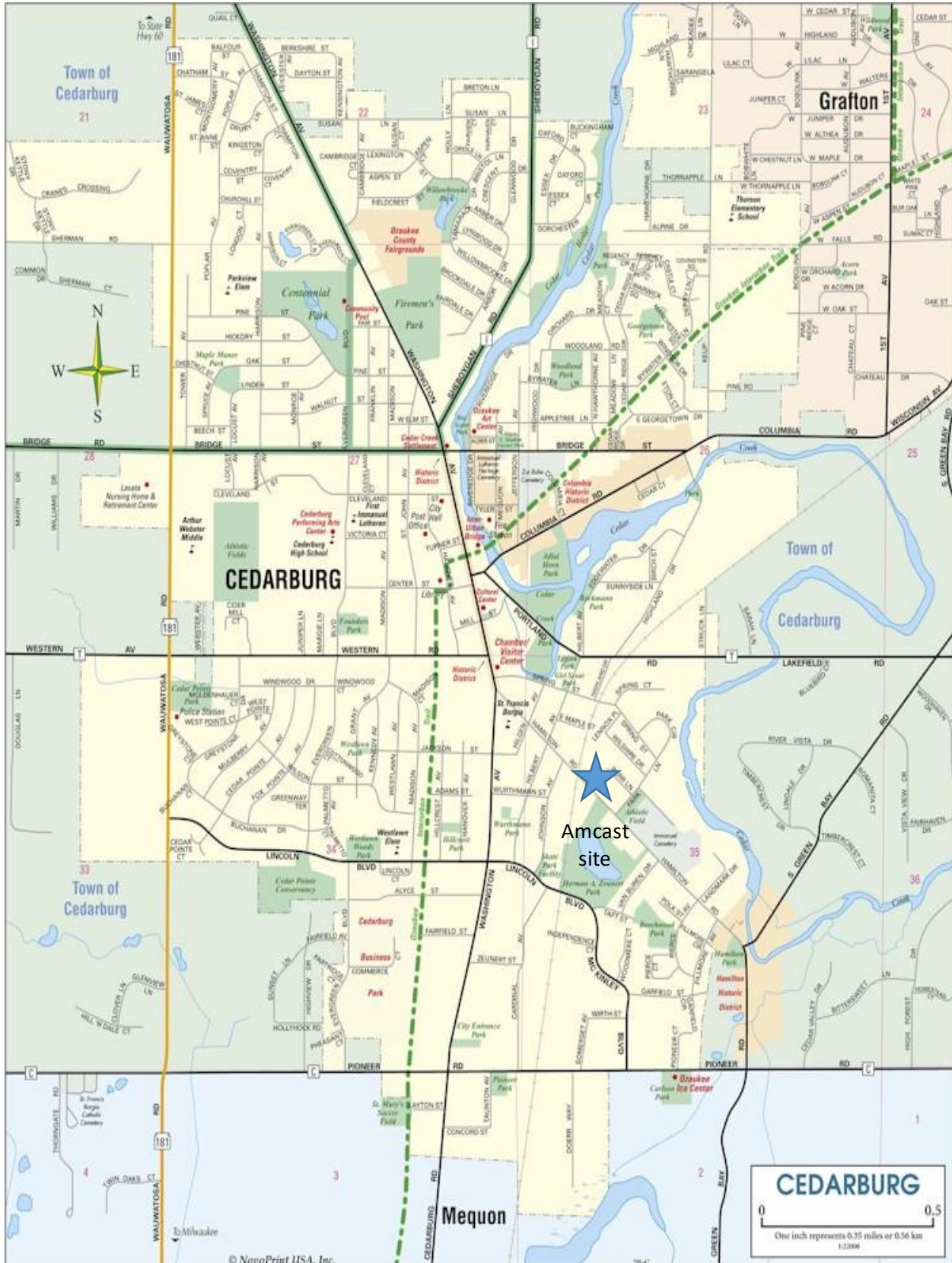
Community Involvement Efforts

The graphic below shows the types of community involvement activities U.S. EPA organizes at a site and how they follow along with the investigation and cleanup process.

Activity	Status
Establish and maintain a point of contact: Phil Gurley	Completed
Establish a toll-free number for residents to ask questions and receive information: 800-621-8431	Completed
Maintain communication with local officials, agencies and community residents	Ongoing
Share information on the Internet: http://www.epa.gov/superfund/amcast-industrial	Ongoing
Create, update and maintain the site mailing list	Ongoing
Prepare and distribute fact sheets and site updates	Ongoing
Establish and maintain a site-specific information repository	Completed/Ongoing
Establish and maintain a site-specific administrative record	Completed/Ongoing
Conduct public meetings, hearings and information sessions	As needed/Ongoing
Participate in local events	As appropriate
Prepare site videos	As appropriate
Provide additional tools for communities as needed	As needed/Ongoing
Write and distribute news releases and public notices	Ongoing
Evaluate community involvement and outreach efforts and make adjustments as warranted	As needed

THE COMMUNITY

Provides a brief summary of the composition and history of the Cedarburg Neighborhood in Wisconsin.



Community Profile

The Amcast site is located in the city of Cedarburg. EPA met with residents and officials from the city of Cedarburg in the development of this CIP. The following provides information about the community, including its history, government and demographics.

History

The city of Cedarburg in Ozaukee County, about 20 miles north of Milwaukee. The development of the area that is now Cedarburg, like many of Ozaukee County's cities and villages, was centered around milling. In the 1840s, German immigrants began building hydropowered gristmills and woolen mills along Cedar Creek. The community that developed around the mills is now downtown Cedarburg. The name Cedarburg most likely was given due to the abundant forests in the area. On March 2, 1849, the Town of Cedarburg became a civil town of Washington County, and in March of 1853, Cedarburg was included into Ozaukee County ([Source](#)).

Most of Cedarburg's early settlers were German and Irish immigrants. Ludwig Wilhelm Groth is usually credited with being the first settler of Cedarburg. He purchased land from the government on October 22, 1842, and began developing the banks of Cedar Creek. In 1845, Frederick Hilgen and William Schroeder built a wooden gristmill on Cedar Creek. By 1846, the first settlers established a rural trading center while harvesting limestone with local quarries for houses and businesses. After eleven years of operation, the original gristmill was replaced with the five-



Cedarburg Mill. Source:

<https://www.town.cedarburg.wi.us/town-history/>

Pre-Industrial development

The earliest evidence of humans in the Cedarburg area is the Hilgen Spring Mound Site, located in the eastern part of the city of Cedarburg, near Cedar Creek. The site consists of three conical burial mounds constructed by early Woodland period Mound Builders. In 1968, archaeologists from the Milwaukee Public Museum found human burials and artifacts, including stone altars, arrowheads, and pottery shards. Radiocarbon samples from the excavation date the mounds' construction to approximately 480 BCE, making it one of the oldest mound groups in the state.

In the early 19th century, the land was inhabited by Native Americans, including the Potawatomi and Sauk tribes. The Potawatomi surrendered the land the United States Federal Government in 1833 through the 1833 Treaty of Chicago, which required them to leave Wisconsin by 1838.

The first white settlement in the Cedarburg area was a community called "New Dublin," which later became Hamilton (an unincorporated community in Cedarburg) in the town of Cedarburg. The first resident was Joseph Gardenier, who built a log shanty on Cedar Creek as his headquarters for surveying for the construction of Green Bay Road.

story, stone Cedarburg Mill, which became the focal point of the new community. Five dams and additional mills were eventually built along the creek, including the 1864 Hilgen and Wittenberg Woolen Mill, which was the largest woolen mill west of Philadelphia.

In 1870, the Milwaukee and Northern Railway connected Cedarburg to Milwaukee. By 1873, the rail line extended from Milwaukee to Green Bay, connecting Cedarburg and other small communities to larger markets. It is now the last covered bridge in the state. In 1907, the interurban electric railway service connected Cedarburg to Milwaukee on an hourly schedule. Cedarburg continued to grow due to its rail

connections until 1948 when the construction of the automobile highways and car ownership became popular.

In 1885, Cedarburg was incorporated as a city, with a population of around 1,000 people. In 1897, the woolen mill purchased an electrical generator, which produced the first electric light in the town. In 1901, the city contracted an electric plant with steam engines. In 1909, the Cedarburg Electric Light Commission was formed, and in 1923, responsibility for water and sewage was given to the commission. The commission was renamed the Light & Water Commission and is still in business today.

Cedarburg grew rapidly during the postwar suburbanization and economic prosperity. Although all the mills in Cedarburg closed by the 1960s, the population increased by more than 84 percent, from 2,810 to 5,191, between 1950 and 1960. In the mid-to-late-20th century, city festivals and events were established to promote artists and tourism in Cedarburg. Festivals include the Wine and Harvest Festival, Winter Festival, and Strawberry Festival. Cedarburg's downtown Washington Avenue area was designated as a historic district on the National Register of Historic Places in the mid-1980s. Adjacent to the downtown area is the Columbia Road Historic District, which was listed on the National and State Registers of Historic Places in 1992.



Cedarburg Mill (2022).

Governmental structure

The city of Cedarburg is organized under a mayor-council government. Seven aldermen/women sit on the Cedarburg common council. The mayor and aldermen/alderwomen are elected and serve four-year terms. The City's day-to-day operations are managed by a full-time city administrator. A contact list, including the current mayor and the Cedarburg city council, is included in Appendix D.

Demographics

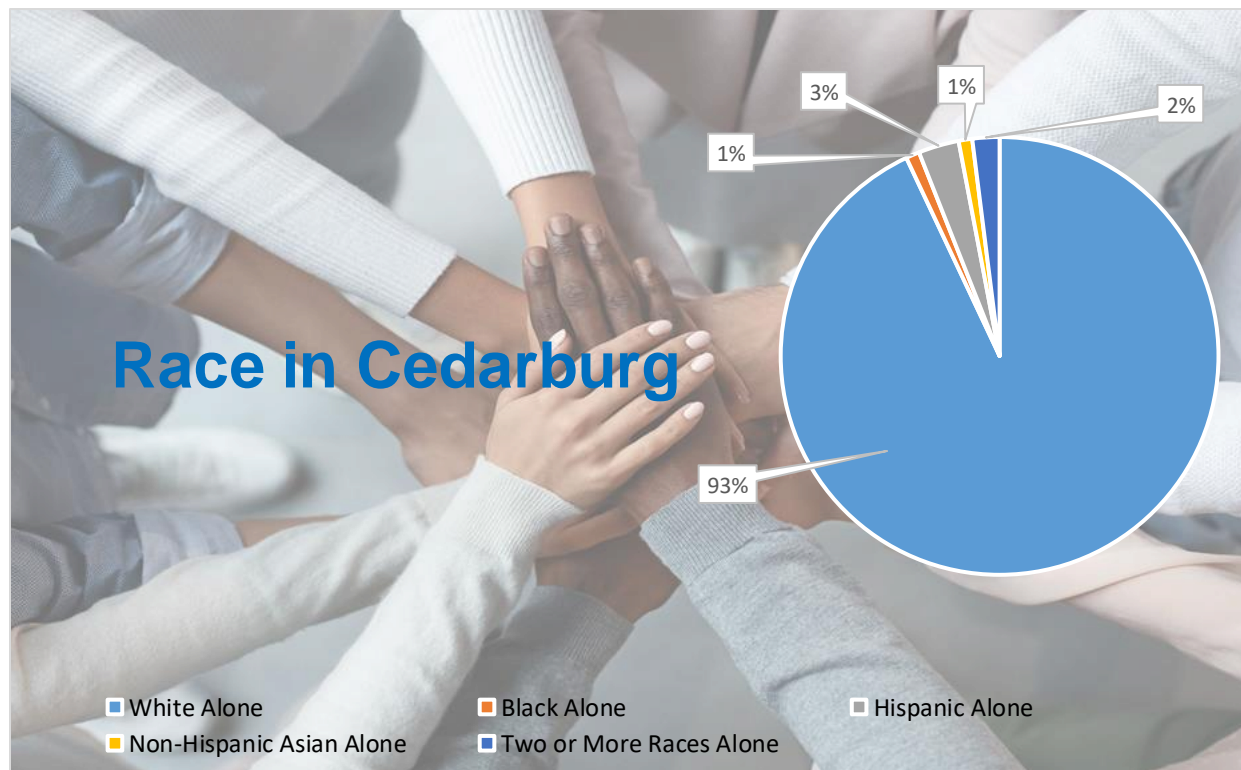
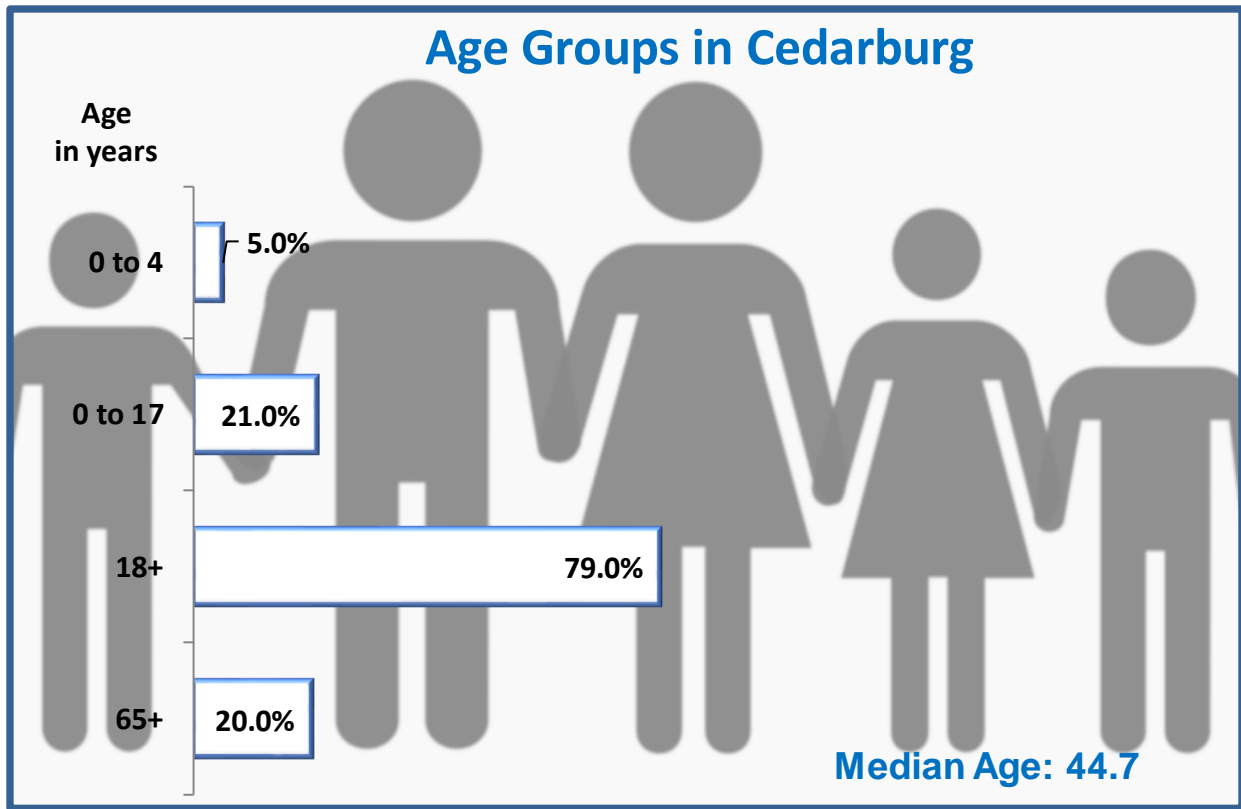
The following demographic information was obtained from the City Data website and using a EPA selection tool called the Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool. This tool, also called EJSCREEN, provides users with a nationally consistent dataset and approach for combining environmental and demographic indicators. Information in



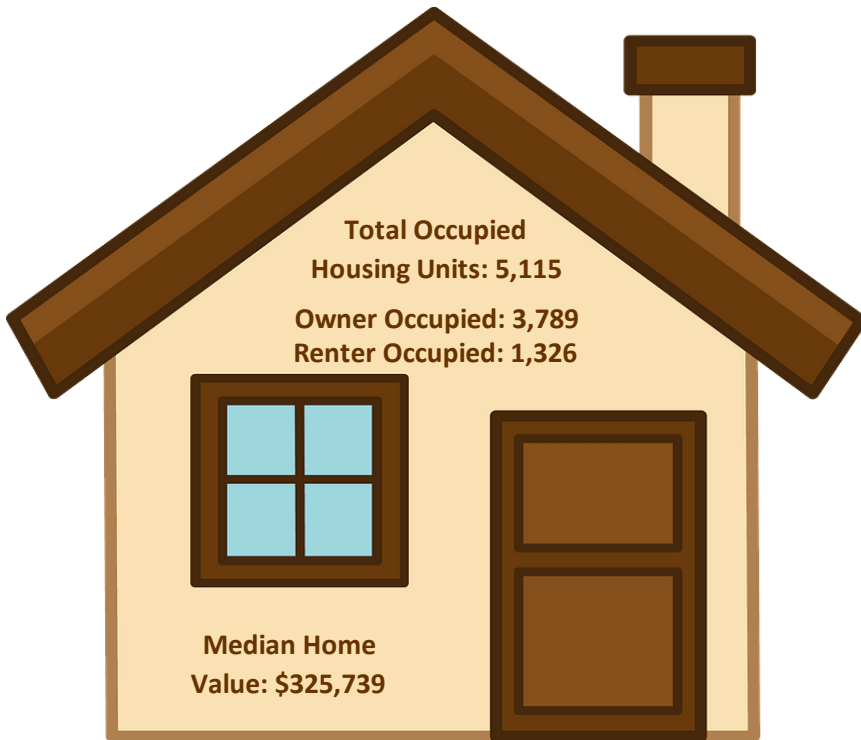
Cedarburg City Hall (2022).

the tool came from the 2016-2020 U.S. Census American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates for the city of Cedarburg. According to EJSCREEN, the estimated current population of Cedarburg is 12,047. At the time of the 2020 U.S. Census, the population was 12,121. Of the residents of the city of Cedarburg aged

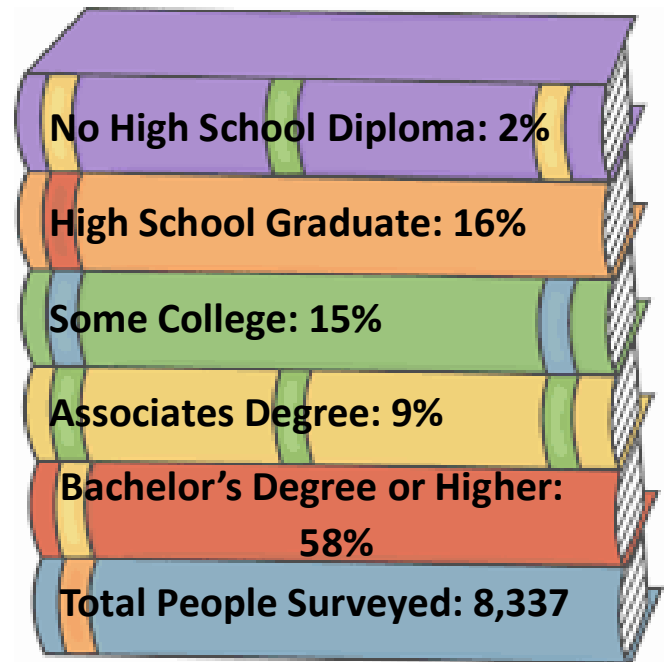
five and older from 2016 to 2020, ninety-five percent said they speak only English. Approximately five percent said they speak a language other than English at home, with about one percent of those saying they speak English “less than very well.” The following graphics provide information for the community affected by the Amcast Superfund site.



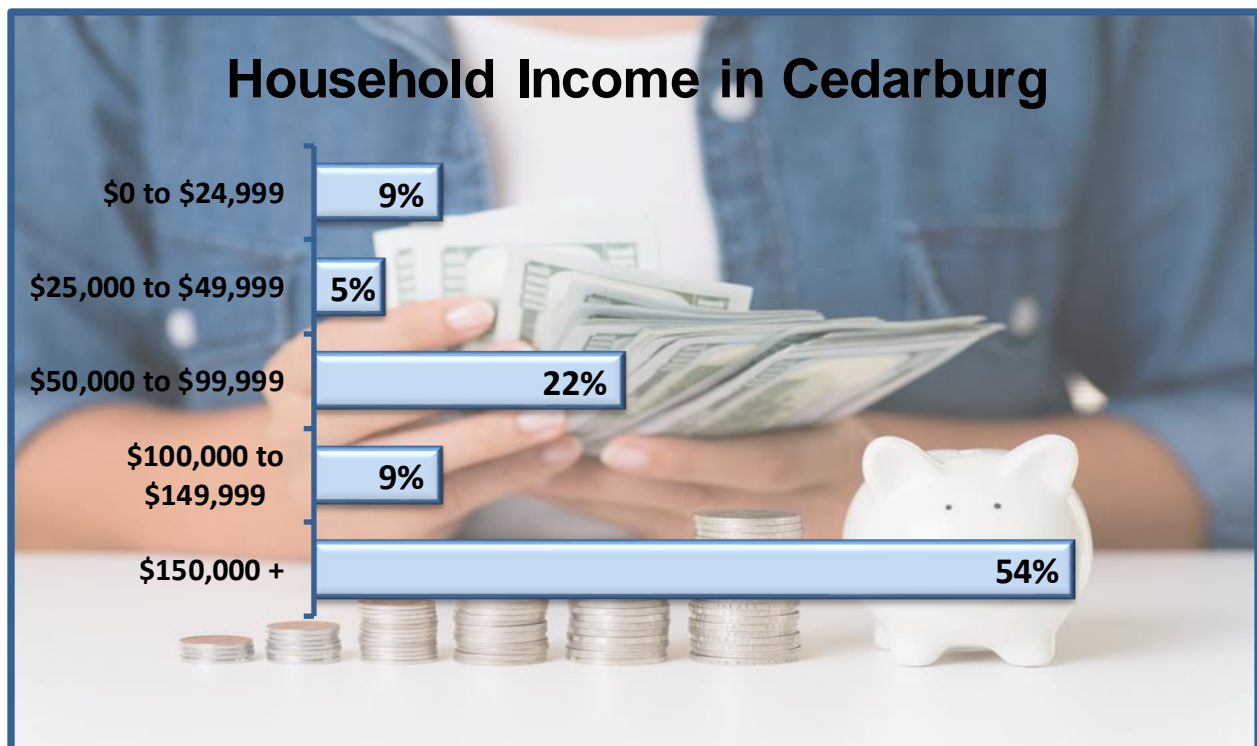
Housing in Cedarburg



Education Levels for People Aged 25+



Household Income in Cedarburg



THE SITE

Provides a brief summary of the Amcast site.

EPA is overseeing investigation and cleanup activities at the Amcast site, located at N39 W5789 Hamilton Road in Cedarburg, Ozaukee County, Wisconsin. The site consists of the Amcast facility (north and south properties), sewers near the former plant, a stormwater retention pond southeast of Amcast (Wilshire Pond), the quarry in nearby Zeunert Park, and some private properties to the southeast.



View southwest of Amcast North showing the partially demolished building, old underground parking access, and paved areas.

The property south of Hamilton Road (Amcast South) is the site of the original foundry (now demolished), and includes a former disposal area, office building, storage building, and parking lot. Amcast South is bounded by Hamilton Road to the north; a railroad to the east; the city of Cedarburg Public Works to the south; and residential properties to the west. The quarry is located across the railroad tracks and southeast of the former manufacturing operations at Amcast

South. The property north of Hamilton Road (Amcast North) is the site of the most recent aluminum die-casting facility. The property consists of the former manufacturing plant building (partially demolished), an underground parking area, a paved asphalt area and grassy corridors along the sides of the building. Amcast North is bounded by a railroad to the northwest; Hamilton Road to the southwest; and residential properties to the northeast and southeast. Wilshire Pond is located southeast of Amcast North and the residential area.

The storm sewer system from the Amcast North property is connected to the Wilshire Pond stormwater retention basin, which drains to Cedar Creek. Storm sewers from the Amcast South property are connected to the quarry at Zeunert Park.

The Amcast South property is the location of the former Meta-Mold Aluminum Company, an aluminum die-cast facility that began operations in 1939. The original foundry facility east of the former office building was demolished between 1975 and 1980, and



View southeast of Amcast South showing the office building.

debris was placed in the former disposal area. The former disposal area also collected demolition debris from previous site structures, paper and wood from office and factory use, and scrap metals.

The facility changed its name to Amcast Industrial Corporation in 1993. Amcast was a former manufacturer of aluminum castings primarily for the automotive industry. It is not known when manufacturing operations began at Amcast North. In 2001, the following chemicals were reportedly stored in secondary containment at the Amcast North property: glycol and petroleum-based hydraulic fluids, petroleum-based die inspection fluids, oil- and vegetable-based cutting fluids, Stoddard Solvent, and mineral spirits.



View northeast of Wilshire Pond.

Die-casting operations at the site consisted of using hydraulic fluids and cutting and grinding oils that contained **PCBs**. The PCBs were discharged into Cedar Creek via storm sewers. One storm sewer emptied into Hamilton Pond, formerly located upstream of Green Bay Road. In the 1970s, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, or WDNR, became aware of PCB-contaminated sediment in Cedar Creek. In 1991, WDNR closed Hamilton Pond as a fishery because the fish were also contaminated with PCBs. PCBs have also been reported in residential soils adjacent to the former aluminum die-casting facility. In 1996, heavy rain and high creek flow caused the Hamilton Dam to collapse. The associated pond was drained, leaving behind several acres of mud flats containing PCBs.

In February 2003, Amcast signed a legal agreement with the U.S. EPA to investigate the facility; however, Amcast filed for bankruptcy in November 2004 before the investigation was completed. The sewers and



View northeast of grassy and paved areas surrounding the Amcast North building.

soil under the site buildings were investigated in November 2005. The soil and sewer samples were never analyzed due to Amcast's bankruptcy. In the summer of 2005, soil samples were taken on private properties near the Amcast plant. The analytical results of those samples showed PCB contamination slightly above what EPA considers safe levels.

The Amcast investigation was originally part of another EPA project, Cedar Creek. When the company filed for bankruptcy, the Amcast site was considered as a separate site. The EPA, supported by the state of Wisconsin, placed the Amcast site

on the **Superfund National Priorities List**, or **NPL**, in 2009, making the site eligible for federal cleanup

funds. PCBs have been reported in soil, municipal storm sewers, a waste disposal area on the property, and a nearby municipal park pond adjacent to the former aluminum die-casting facility. EPA started its investigation of Amcast in August 2009.

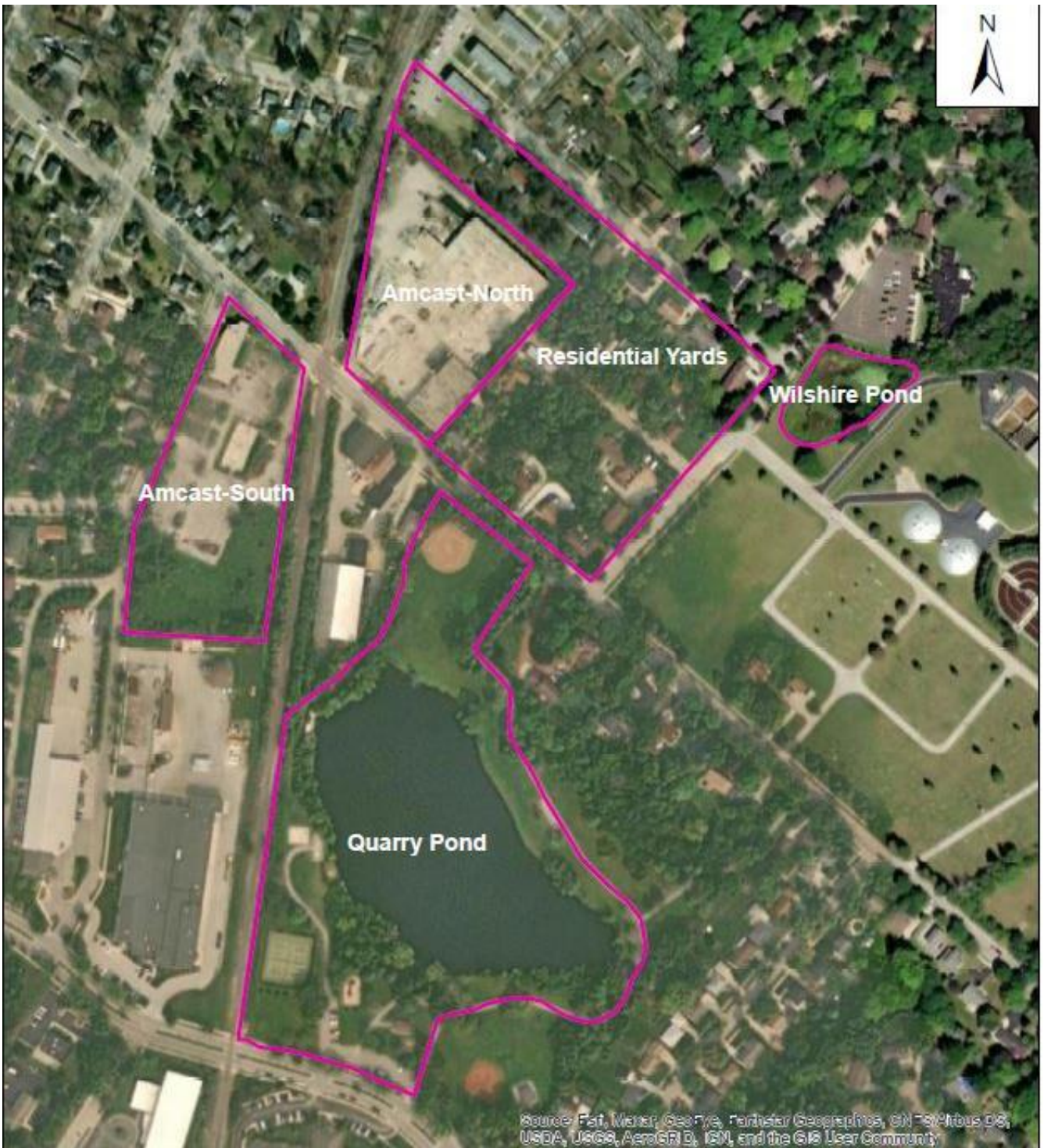


View southeast of the former disposal area at the Amcast South property.

Soil sampling on the Amcast property and on nearby private properties between Hamilton Road and Wilshire Drive was conducted in 2011. Residential yards were reported to have elevated concentrations of PCBs greater than 10 micrograms per kilogram, which is the cleanup level for high-occupancy areas without further restrictions, in at least one sample on 14 properties. Investigations at the Amcast North property reported the detection of PCBs in stormwater, the loading dock area, residential properties near the plant, and the storm sewer system, including the stormwater retention area (Wilshire Pond). The highest concentrations of PCBs in the soil at Amcast North are generally limited to the top 5 feet of soil surrounding the building (grassy or asphalt-paved areas). Investigations at the Amcast South property reported the detection of PCBs in soils below the parking lot, the railroad right-of-way east of the parking lot, the fill and subsurface soils below the former disposal area, the storm sewer system, and the groundwater. The highest concentrations of PCBs at Amcast South are generally limited to the former disposal area at the south end of the site. For more information about the 2011 investigation, please visit the Amcast website: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/amcast-industrial>



View south of the quarry in Zeunert Park.



Amcast Industrial Corporation site boundary in pink.

Current Site Status

The 2015 Remedial Investigation Report, which details results from soil samples taken on the Amcast property and on nearby private properties between Hamilton Road and Wilshire Drive, is available to the public on the site's webpage under "Site Documents & Data." In addition to taking samples in two areas referred to as "Amcast North and Amcast South," EPA contractors focused on:

- The quarry in Zeunert Park
- Residential yards southeast of Amcast North
- Wilshire Pond southeast of the residential yards
- Storm sewers that connect these areas to the former main plant
- Groundwater well installations on the Amcast property

The remedial investigation report is the basis for another document called a "**feasibility study**." This study examines and compares several possible cleanup options. A proposed plan to clean up the site is expected to be available for public comment in 2023. A final **Record of Decision**, or cleanup decision, will follow. All these actions depend on the availability of federal funds.

Appendix A

Glossary – Initials – Acronyms

Administrative Record. The body of documents that forms the basis for the selection of a particular response at a site. For example, the Administrative Record for remedy selection includes all documents that were considered or relied upon to select the remedy through the **record of decision**.

CERCLA. See Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act.

CIC. See Community Involvement Coordinator.

CIP. See Community Involvement Plan.

Cleanup. Actions taken to deal with a release or threat of release of a hazardous substance that could affect humans and/or the environment. The term “cleanup” is sometimes used interchangeably with the terms “remedial action,” “remediation,” “removal action,” “response action,” or “corrective action.”

Community Engagement. The process of involving communities in all phases of the cleanup process. Communities are asked to provide input on how the cleanup will be conducted and how it may affect community plans and goals. See also Community Involvement.

Community Involvement. The term used by U.S. EPA to identify its process for engaging in dialogue and collaboration with communities affected by Superfund site. U.S. EPA’s community involvement approach is founded in the belief that people have a right to know what the Agency is doing in their community and to have a say in it. Its purpose is to give people the opportunity to become involved in the Agency’s activities and to help shape the decisions that are made.

Community Involvement Coordinator. The U.S. EPA official whose lead responsibility is to involve and inform the public about the Superfund process and response actions in accordance with the interactive community involvement requirements set forth in the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan.

Community Involvement Plan. A plan that outlines specific community involvement activities that occur during the investigation and cleanup at the site. The CIP outlines how U.S. EPA will keep the public informed of work at the site and the ways in which residents can review and comment on decisions that may affect the final actions at the site. The document is available in the site’s information repository maintained by U.S. EPA. The CIP may be modified as necessary to respond to changes in community concerns, information needs and activities.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. A federal law passed in 1980 and modified in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act. Commonly known as Superfund, CERCLA is intended to protect people’s health and the environment by investigating and cleaning up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste site. Under the program, U.S. EPA can either:

- Pay for site cleanup when parties responsible for the contamination cannot be located or are unwilling or unable to do the work; or
- Take legal action to force parties responsible for site contamination to clean up the site or pay back the federal government for the cost of the cleanup.

Consent Decree. A legal document that formalizes an agreement reached between U.S. EPA and parties considered potentially responsible for contamination, called PRPs, where PRPs will perform all or part of a Superfund site cleanup. The consent decree describes actions that PRPs are required to perform, the costs incurred by the government that the PRPs will reimburse, as well as the roles, responsibilities and enforcement options that the government may exercise in the event of noncompliance by the PRPs. A consent decree is subject to a public comment period.

Contaminant(s). Any physical, chemical, biological or radiological substance or matter that has an adverse effect on air, water or soil.

Contamination. Introduction into water, air and soil of microorganisms, chemicals, toxic substances, wastes or wastewater in a concentration that makes the medium unfit for its next intended use. Also applies to surfaces of objects, buildings and various household use products.

EJ. See Environmental Justice.

Environmental Justice. The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

Feasibility Study. The feasibility study is an analysis of the practicality of a proposal and evaluates alternatives and costs for their effectiveness in protecting human health and the environment.

FS. See Feasibility Study.

Groundwater. Underground supplies of drinking water

Hazardous Substance(s). Any material that poses a threat to human health and/or the environment. Typical hazardous substances are toxic, corrosive, ignitable, explosive or chemically reactive. Any substance designated by U.S. EPA to be reported if a designated quantity of the substance is spilled in the waters of the United States or is otherwise released into the environment.

Hazardous Waste. Byproducts that can pose a substantial or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly managed. Hazardous wastes usually possess at least one of four characteristics (ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity or toxicity) or appear on special U.S. EPA lists.

Information Repository. A file containing current information, technical reports and reference documents regarding a site. The information repository usually is located in a public building convenient for local residents such as a public school, town hall or library.

Metals. Metals include elements with a metallic luster and are found on and beneath the earth's surface, such as manganese, lead, cadmium and chromium.

National Priorities List. U.S. EPA's list of serious uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste site identified for possible long-term cleanup under Superfund. The list is based primarily on the score a site receives from the Hazard Ranking System. U.S. EPA is required to update the National Priorities List at least once a year.

NPL. See National Priorities List.

PCBs: See Polychlorinated biphenyls.

Polychlorinated biphenyls: Polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs, are mixtures of up to 209 individual chlorinated compounds known as congeners. There are no known natural sources of PCBs, although some PCBs can exist as a vapor in air. PCBs are either oily liquids or solids that are colorless to light yellow and have no known smell or taste. Many commercial PCB mixtures are known in the U.S. by the trade name “Aroclor”. PCBs have been used as coolants and lubricants in transformers, capacitors and other electrical equipment because they do not easily burn and are good insulators. The manufacturing of PCBs was stopped in the U.S. in 1977 because of evidence of buildup in the environment which may cause harmful health effects. Products made before 1977 that may contain PCBs include fluorescent lighting fixtures and electrical devices with PCB capacitors as well as old microscope and hydraulic oils. The most commonly observed health effects in people exposed to large amounts of PCBs are skin conditions such as acne and rashes. Studies in exposed workers have shown changes in blood and urine that may also indicate liver damage. EPA classifies PCBs as probable cancer-causing agents. More information on PCBs can be found in a fact sheet in Appendix E and online.

<https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tfacts17.pdf>

Potentially Responsible Parties: Any individual or company (including owners, operators, transporters or generators that has been identified as being potentially responsible for or contributing to a spill or other potential contamination at a Superfund site. Whenever possible, through administrative and legal action, EPA requires PRPs to clean up hazardous sites that have been contaminated.

Proposed Plan. A plan for a site cleanup that is available to the public for comment.

Public Comment Period(s). A formal opportunity for community members to review and contribute written comments on various U.S. EPA documents or actions.

Public Meeting(s). Formal public sessions that are characterized by a presentation to the public followed by a question-and-answer session. Formal public meetings may involve the use of a court reporter and the issuance of transcripts. Formal public meetings are required only for the proposed plan and Record of Decision amendments.

PRPs: See Potentially Responsible Parties.

Record of Decision. A ROD is a legal, technical and public document that explains which cleanup alternative will be used at a Superfund NPL site. The ROD is based on information and technical analysis generated during the remedial investigation and feasibility study and consideration of public comments and community concerns.

Remedial Investigation. The remedial investigation is a study designed to collect the data necessary to determine the nature and extent of contamination at a site.

Remedial Project Manager. The EPA or state official responsible for overseeing on-site remedial action.

RI. See Remedial Investigation.

ROD. See Record of Decision.

RPM. See Remedial Project Manager.

SARA. See Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act.

Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act. Modifications to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, enacted on October 17, 1986.

Superfund. The program operated under the legislative authority of CERCLA that funds and carries out U.S. EPA solid waste emergency and long-term removal and remedial activities. These activities include establishing the National Priorities List, investigating site for inclusion on the list, determining their priority and conducting and/or supervising cleanup and other remedial actions.

TAG. See Technical Assistance Grant.

TASC. See Technical Assistance Services for Communities.

Technical Assistance Grant. This grant provides money for activities that help communities participate in decision making at eligible Superfund sites.

Technical Assistance Services for Communities. This program supplies communities with technical help so they can better understand the science, regulations and policies of environmental issues and EPA actions.

Appendix B

Information Repository, Administrative Record, Websites and Meeting Locations

Local Information Repository



Regular Library Hours

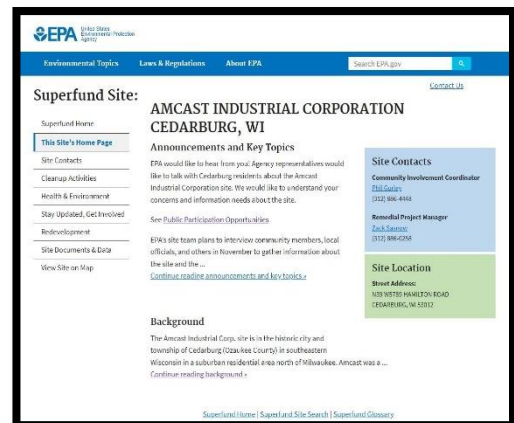
Monday	9:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday	9:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday	9:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Thursday	9:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday	9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday	9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Sunday	12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Official Information Repository U.S. EPA Region 5 Superfund Records Center

77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Room 711, 7th Floor
Ralph Metcalfe Federal Building
Chicago, IL 60604

U.S. EPA Site Webpage

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/amcast-industrial>



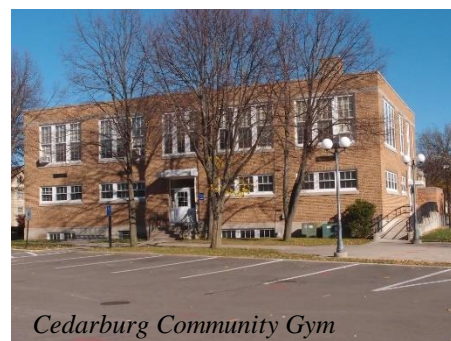
Possible Meeting Locations

Cedarburg City Hall

W63 N645 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012
262-375-7600

Cedarburg Community Gym

W63 N641 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012
262-375-7611



Appendix C

Community Interview Questions

BASICS

1. Are you a resident in the area? If yes, how long have you lived in the area?
2. Do you own or rent?
3. How do you identify yourself demographically in terms of race, ethnicity, and language preference?
4. Do you hold any position – elected, appointed, hired – with any municipal, state or federal agency? If so which, and what is the position?

COMMUNICATION

5. Do you have access to the internet?
6. How do you want to be informed about site activities?
 - a. Mail (do you want to be on EPAs mail list?)
 - b. Email (do you want to be on EPAs email list?)
 - c. Newspaper (what newspaper(s)?)
 - d. TV (what stations?)
 - e. Radio (what stations?)
 - f. Social Media (what form?)
 - g. Websites/online sources
 - h. Other (such as word of mouth, city/state officials, etc.)
7. Are you aware of US EPAs website?
 - a. If yes, have you been on it?
 - b. Is it easy to navigate?
 - c. Other comments?
8. Would you go/have you gone to the library to review any documents about the site?
9. Have you attended any meetings about the site? If so, when/where?
10. Would you attend a virtual or in-person public meeting about the site? Preference?
11. What days, times, and locations would be best for public meetings/virtual meetings/conference calls?
 - a. Suggestions for future meeting locations?
12. Are there any people or community groups we should talk to about the Amcast site? If so, do you have the contact information for those groups?
13. Have you received any information about the Amcast site? If so, what did you receive/when?
14. Do you feel you have been adequately informed about the site?
 - a. If no, what other kinds of information would you like?

CONCERNS

15. How long have you been aware of environmental concerns at the site?
16. What do you know about the Amcast Industrial site?
17. What concerns do you have about the site?
18. Have you been in contact with local Cedarburg, state or federal agencies or site developer about the site?
19. What is special/important to you about your community?

20. Is there anything else you would like to share about either the site or U.S. EPA's involvement with the local community?
21. Do you have any questions?

Appendix D

List of Contacts

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Officials



Zack Sasnow
Remedial Project Manager
Superfund Division
U.S. EPA
77 W Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604
312-886-0258 or 800-621-8431 x 60258
sasnow.zachary@epa.gov

Phil Gurley
Community Involvement Coordinator
Superfund Division
U.S. EPA
77 W Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604
312-886-4448 or 800-621-8431 x 64448
gurley.philip@epa.gov

Federal Elected Officials

Tammy Baldwin
Senator
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-5653
<https://www.baldwin.senate.gov/>

Milwaukee Office
633 West Wisconsin Ave., Suite 1300
Milwaukee, WI 53203
414-297-4451

Ron Johnson
Senator
328 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-5323
<https://www.ronjohnson.senate.gov/>

Milwaukee Office
517 East Wisconsin Ave., Suite 408
Milwaukee, WI 53202
414-276-7282

Glenn Grothman
U.S. Representative
1427 Longworth H.O.B
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-2476
<https://grothman.house.gov/>

Fond du Lac Office
525 N Peters Ave., Suite 700
Fond du Lac, WI 54937
920-907-0624

State Elected Officials

Tony Evers

Governor
115 East, State Capitol, P.O. Box 7863
Madison, WI 53702
608-266-1212
<https://evers.wi.gov/Pages/Home.aspx>

Duey Stroebel (20th District)

State Senator
18 South, State Capitol, P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707

608-266-7513

<https://legis.wisconsin.gov/senate/20/stroebel/>

Robert Brooks (60th District)

State Representative
Room 216 North, State Capitol, P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708
608-534-0060

Cedarburg Officials

Mike O'Keefe

Mayor
W63 N645 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012
262-375-6330
mokeefe@ci.cedarburg.wi.us

Tracie Sette

City Clerk
W63 N645 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012
262-375-7610

Melissa Bitter

1st District Alderwoman
W63 N645 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012
414-339-3206
Dist1cm@ci.cedarburg.wi.us

Jack Arnett

2nd District Alderman
W63 N645 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012
262-208-4598
Dist2cm@ci.cedarburg.wi.us

Kristin Burkart

3rd District Alderwoman
W63 N645 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012
262-745-5934
Dist3cm@ci.cedarburg.wi.us

Rick Verhaalen

4th District Alderman
W63 N645 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012
262-251-6575
Dist4cm@ci.cedarburg.wi.us

Robert Simpson

5th District Alderman
W63 N645 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012
262-421-5414
Dist5cm@ci.cedarburg.wi.us

Patricia Thome

6th District Alderwoman
W63 N645 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012
262-377-7154
Dist6cm@ci.cedarburg.wi.us

Mark Mueller

7th District Alderman
W63 N645 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012
414-520-0080
Dist7cm@ci.cedarburg.wi.us

Cedarburg Police

Police Chief
Michael McNerney
W75 N444 Wauwatosia Rd.
Cedarburg, WI 53012
262-375-7620
cpd@ci.cedarburg.wi.us

Cedarburg Fire Department

Fire Chief
Jeff Vahsholtz
P.O Box 327
W61 N631 Mequon Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012

Cedarburg Fire Department

Assistant Chief
Bill Hintz
P.O Box 327
W61 N631 Mequon Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012

Cedarburg Fire Department

Deputy Chief
Joey Hintz
P.O Box 327
W61 N631 Mequon Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012

Cedarburg Fire Department

Deputy Chief
Andy Heidtke
P.O Box 327
W61 N631 Mequon Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012

Scott Ziegler

Director
Ozaukee County Emergency Management
1201 S. Spring St.
Port Washington, WI 53074
262-238-8398

Kim Buechler

Health Officer
Washington Ozaukee Public Health
Department
121 W Main Street, PO Box 994
Port Washington, WI 53095
262-284-8170

Health Agencies/Organizations

**Agency for Toxic Substances and
Disease Registry Region 5**

77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Room 433, M/S 4J
Chicago, IL 60604
312-886-0840
www.atsdr.cdc.gov/dro/r5.html

**Wisconsin Department of Health
Services**

1 Wilson St.
Madison, WI 53703
608-266-1865
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/>

**Ozaukee County Public Health
Department**

121 W Main St. #220
Port Washington, WI 53074
262-284-8170
<http://www.washozwi.gov/>

Neighborhood Organizations

Cedarburg Cultural Center

W62 N546 Washington Ave.
Cedarburg, WI 53012
262-375-3676
<https://www.cedarburgculturalcenter.org/>

Cedarburg Education Foundation

P.O. Box 502
Cedarburg, WI 53012
<https://cef4kids.org/>

**Cedarburg Friends of Parks and
Recreation**

P.O. Box 864
Cedarburg, WI 53012
262-375-7611
<http://cedarburgfriendsofparksandrecreation.org/>

Cedarburg Garden Club

P.O. Box 796
Cedarburg, WI 53012
cedarburggardenclub@gmail.com

<https://cedarburggardenclub.com/>

Cedarburg Green

P.O. Box 101

Cedarburg, W 53012

<https://www.ci.cedarburg.wi.us/cedarburg-green>

Cedarburg Junior Women's Club

CJWC

P.O. Box 205

Cedarburg, WI 53012

cedarburgjuniors@gmail.com

<http://www.cedarburgjuniors.org/>

Cedarburg Lion's Club

P.O. Box 754

Cedarburg, WI 53012

cedarburglionsclub@gmail.com

<https://e-clubhouse.org/sites/cedarburg/>

Cedarburg Women's Club

W57 N475 Hilbert Ave.

Cedarburg, WI 53012

262-385-1467

<https://cedarburgwomansclub.org/>

The Greater Cedarburg Foundation

P.O. Box 711

Cedarburg, WI 53012

262-377-7338

<https://cedarburgfoundation.com/>

League of Wisconsin Municipalities

316 W Washington Ave., Suite 600

Madison, WI 53703

608-267-2380

<http://www.lwm-info.org/>

Marine Corps League, Detachment 1289

P.O. Box 408

Cedarburg, WI 53012

info@marinecorpsleague1289.org

<https://marinecorpsleague1289.org/>

Ozaukee County Agricultural Society

W67 N866 Washington Ave.

Cedarburg, WI 53012

262-375-6185

Ozaukee Family Services

4922 Columbia Rd.

Cedarburg, WI 53012

262-376-7774

info@ozaukeefamilyservices.org

<http://ozaukeefamilyservices.org/>

Rotary Club of Cedarburg-Grafton

American Legion, Peter Wollner Post No. 288

W57 N481 Hilbert Ave.

Cedarburg, WI 53012

<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/8000/>

Newspapers

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

333 W State St.

Milwaukee, WI 53203

414-224-2000

<https://www.jsonline.com/>

Ozaukee County News Graphic

W61 N306 Washington Ave.

Cedarburg, WI 53012

262-306-5000

https://www.gmtoday.com/news_graphic/

[262-542-2501](https://www.gmtoday.com/news_graphic/262-542-2501)

Ozaukee Press

125 E Main St.

Port Washington, WI 53074

262-284-3494

<https://www.ozaukeepress.com/>

Radio

WISN – 1130 AM

759 N 19th St.

Milwaukee, WI 53233

414-345-1452

<https://newstalk1130.iheart.com/>

WTMJ – 620 AM

720 E Capitol Dr.

Milwaukee, WI 54201

414-332-9611

<https://wtmj.com/>

WJZX – 106.9 FM

5407 W McKinley Ave

Milwaukee, WI 53208

414-978-9000

<https://onmilwaukee.com/on/wjzx-fm>

WUWM – 89.7 FM (NPR)

111 E Wisconsin Ave #700

Milwaukee, WI 53202

414-227-3355
<https://www.wuwm.com/>

Television

WDJT-TV CBS 58
809 S. 60th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53214
414-777-5800
<https://www.cbs58.com/>

WTMJ-TV NBC 4
720 E Capitol Dr.
Milwaukee, WI 53212
414-332-9611
<https://www.tmj4.com/>

WISN-TV ABC 12

759 N 19th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53233
414-937-1212
<https://www.wisn.com/>

WMVS-TV 10
1036 N 8th St
Milwaukee, WI 53233
414-271-1036
<https://www.milwaukeekeepbs.org/>

WITI-TV FOX 6
9001 N Green Bay Rd
Milwaukee, WI 53209
414-355-6666
<https://www.fox6now.com/>

Appendix E

Community Engagement and the Superfund Process

Superfund is an environmental cleanup program enabled by a federal law enacted in 1980 known as the **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act**, or **CERCLA**, also called Superfund. In 1986, another law, the **Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act**, or **SARA**, reauthorized CERCLA to continue Superfund cleanup activities. The CERCLA law gives EPA the authority to require those parties responsible for creating **hazardous waste** sites to clean up those



sites or to reimburse the government if EPA cleans up the sites. U.S. EPA compels responsible parties to clean up hazardous waste sites through administrative orders, **consent decrees** and other legal settlements. EPA is authorized to enforce the Superfund laws within Indian reservations, in all 50 states and in U.S. territories. Superfund site identification, monitoring and response activities are coordinated with state, tribal and territorial environmental protection or waste management agencies.

There are several steps involved in cleaning up a contaminated site. Once U.S. EPA has been made aware of a contaminated site from individual citizens, local, tribal or state agencies or others, U.S. EPA follows a step-by-step process (see the next page of this Appendix) to determine the best way to clean up the site and protect human health and the environment.

If the site poses an immediate threat to public health or the environment, U.S. EPA can intervene with an **emergency response action**. The goal of U.S. EPA's Emergency Response and Removal Program is to protect the public and the environment from immediate threats posed by the release or discharge of **hazardous substances**. The following pages present diagrams showing Community Involvement in the Removal and Remedial processes.

The Superfund program encourages active dialogue between communities affected by the release of hazardous substances and all of the agencies responsible for carrying out or overseeing cleanup actions. U.S. EPA considers community involvement to be an important part of the Superfund program and opportunities for community involvement occur throughout the process. At each step in the process, there are opportunities for various levels of community involvement (see the following page for more details).

**Visit these EPA websites for more information on
the Superfund process.**

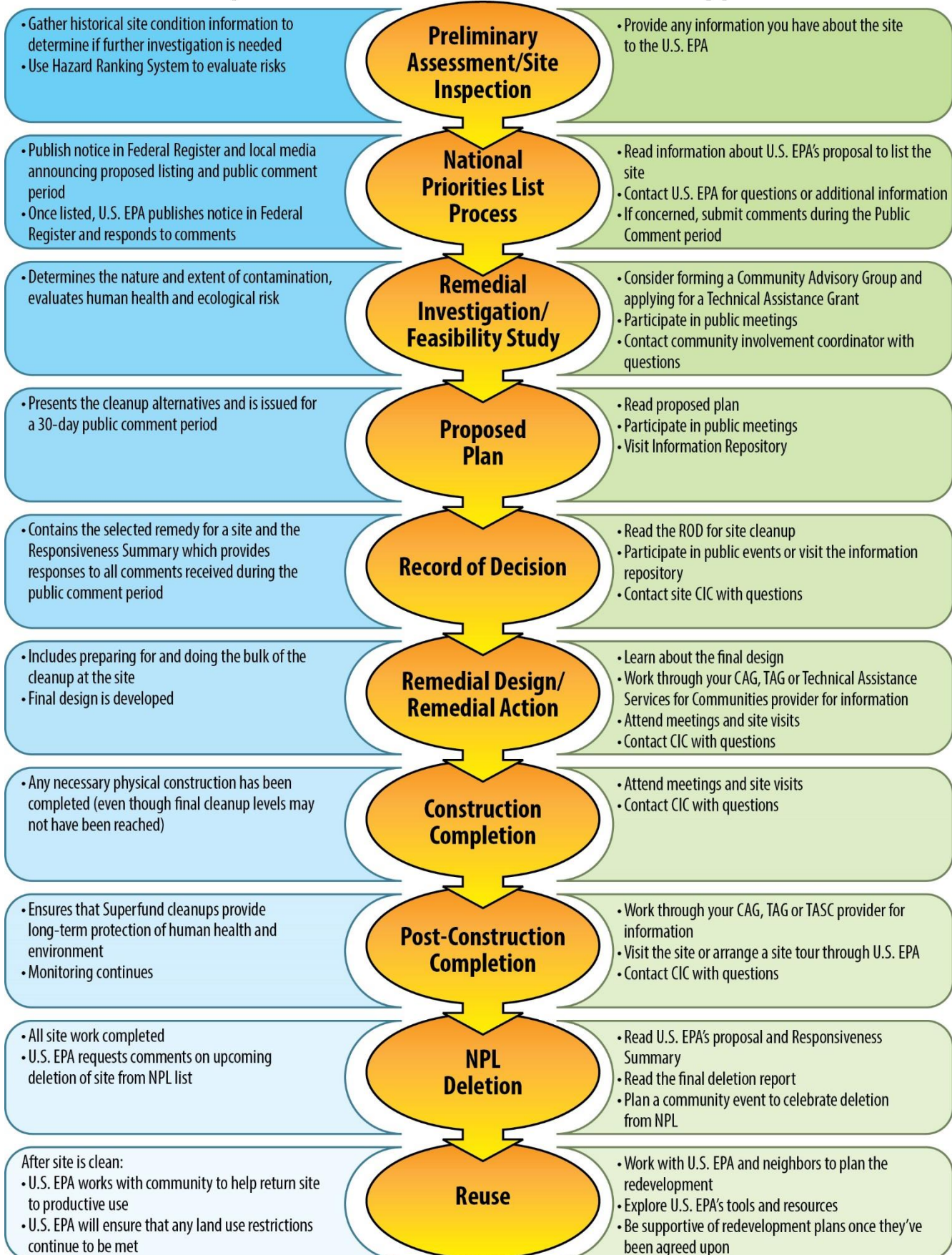
Superfund: www.epa.gov/superfund

Cleanup Process: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/cleaning-superfund-sites>

Community Involvement: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-community-involvement>

Superfund Process Steps

Community Involvement Opportunities



- Gather historical site condition information to determine if further investigation is needed
- Use Hazard Ranking System to evaluate risks

- Publish notice in Federal Register and local media announcing proposed listing and public comment period
- Once listed, U.S. EPA publishes notice in Federal Register and responds to comments

- Determines the nature and extent of contamination, evaluates human health and ecological risk

- Presents the cleanup alternatives and is issued for a 30-day public comment period

- Contains the selected remedy for a site and the Responsiveness Summary which provides responses to all comments received during the public comment period

- Includes preparing for and doing the bulk of the cleanup at the site
- Final design is developed

- Any necessary physical construction has been completed (even though final cleanup levels may not have been reached)

- Ensures that Superfund cleanups provide long-term protection of human health and environment
- Monitoring continues

- All site work completed
- U.S. EPA requests comments on upcoming deletion of site from NPL list

- After site is clean:
- U.S. EPA works with community to help return site to productive use
 - U.S. EPA will ensure that any land use restrictions continue to be met

- Provide any information you have about the site to the U.S. EPA

- Read information about U.S. EPA's proposal to list the site
- Contact U.S. EPA for questions or additional information
- If concerned, submit comments during the Public Comment period

- Consider forming a Community Advisory Group and applying for a Technical Assistance Grant
- Participate in public meetings
- Contact community involvement coordinator with questions

- Read proposed plan
- Participate in public meetings
- Visit Information Repository

- Read the ROD for site cleanup
- Participate in public events or visit the information repository
- Contact site CIC with questions

- Learn about the final design
- Work through your CAG, TAG or Technical Assistance Services for Communities provider for information
- Attend meetings and site visits
- Contact CIC with questions

- Attend meetings and site visits
- Contact CIC with questions

- Work through your CAG, TAG or TASC provider for information
- Visit the site or arrange a site tour through U.S. EPA
- Contact CIC with questions

- Read U.S. EPA's proposal and Responsiveness Summary
- Read the final deletion report
- Plan a community event to celebrate deletion from NPL

- Work with U.S. EPA and neighbors to plan the redevelopment
- Explore U.S. EPA's tools and resources
- Be supportive of redevelopment plans once they've been agreed upon

Appendix F

Communications to the Community

Frequently Asked Questions about EPA's Cleanup

Amcast Industrial Corporation
Cedarburg, Wisconsin

Nov 2022

For more information

If you have questions or comments,
please contact:

Phil Gurley

U.S. EPA Community Involvement
Coordinator
312-886-4448
gurley.philip@epa.gov

Zack Sasnow

U.S. EPA Remedial Project Manager
312-886-0258
sasnow.zachary@epa.gov

Matthew Vitale

Project Manager
Wisconsin DNR
715-492-1222
matthew.vitale@wisconsin.gov

Call U.S. EPA toll-free,
800-621-8431, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.,
weekdays.

On the Web:

<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/amcas-t-industrial>



Figure 1 Cleanup locations at the Amcast Industrial Corp. Superfund site

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency wants your opinion about cleaning up the Amcast Industrial Corporation site. EPA will hold interviews with Cedarburg residents from Wed, Nov. 2 through Friday, Nov. 4 at Cedarburg City Hall. EPA experts hope to hear directly from residents to better understand community concerns and information needs about the site.

Site Background

The Amcast site was a local automotive industry supplier, divided between two properties (Amcast North and Amcast South). The present site of the Amcast South office building was formerly the Meta-Mold Aluminum Company, an aluminum die-cast facility that started operating around 1939. The original foundry facility, formerly located east of the office building, was demolished between 1975 and 1980. The demolition debris were placed in the south-southeast portion of the Amcast South property (the "former disposal area"). The former disposal area reportedly also received demolition debris from previous site structures, general office and/or factory refuse (e.g., paper and wood), and scrap metals. Most of the former site structures have been demolished. Over the course of its active years the site was contaminated primarily with polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs, which were identified by EPA during its investigation of the site from 2009 to 2015.

Several questions have been brought up regarding the site and EPA's responses to those questions are listed below.

What are PCBs and do they pose a risk to people?

PCBs are carcinogenic, man-made organic chemicals. They were used in many industrial and consumer products because of their fire-resistant and insulating properties. The manufacture of PCBs was banned in 1979 by the Toxic Substances Control Act. PCBs do not readily break down in the environment and can be easily carried in air, water, and soil. Exposure to these chemicals has been proven to cause cancer and negatively impact health.

For more information about PCBs and their related health risks, visit:

www.atsdr.cdc.gov/csem/polychlorinated-biphenyls/adverse_health.html

Is there contamination outside of the site?

PCBs migrated from Amcast North and South (shown in fig. 1) via sewers and overland stormwater flow to the nearby residential yards, Quarry Pond, and Wilshire Pond. The sediments in both ponds and fish in Quarry Pond are contaminated.

The groundwater below the site is also contaminated with PCBs and some heavy metals, but the groundwater is not used as a drinking water source.

What will be done to clean up the site?

EPA, with input from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), is developing a Proposed Plan that will outline EPA's recommended cleanup for the site and will solicit comments from the public. EPA expects that the Proposed Plan will be released for public comment in 2023. In general, the recommended cleanup in the Proposed Plan will include excavating contaminated soil and sediment and replacing excavated soil with clean soil.

After EPA incorporates public comments on the proposed plan, EPA will issue a Record of Decision (ROD) to outline the recommended plan and arrange for contractor support to begin the cleanup process.

What will happen to the site after cleanup?

The City of Cedarburg has plans to redevelop the site for residential use once the cleanup is completed and sampling shows contaminants have been removed.

Why is the cleanup taking so long?

In 2004, Amcast declared bankruptcy and its contractor was told to stop working on investigation efforts. In 2009, the site was added to EPA's Superfund National Priorities List and EPA continued the work.

In 2015, EPA finished the Remedial Investigation, and in 2018, EPA completed a Feasibility Study. In the meantime, EPA has been evaluating cleanup options for contaminated soil and sediment—this will be presented in the Proposed Plan.

Although the Proposed Plan has been slightly delayed, a draft is currently in the final stages of revision and is expected to be ready for public comment in early 2023.

A new Community Involvement Plan will also be ready for distribution in early 2023 and will include site updates and recent community interviews.

Where can people go to get additional background information on the site?

The EPA webpage for the Amcast Industrial Corporation site is located at: www.epa.gov/superfund/amcast-industrial. EPA's website provides information on the nature and extent of contamination and the cleanup measures taken at the site. The website also houses all documents related to the site.

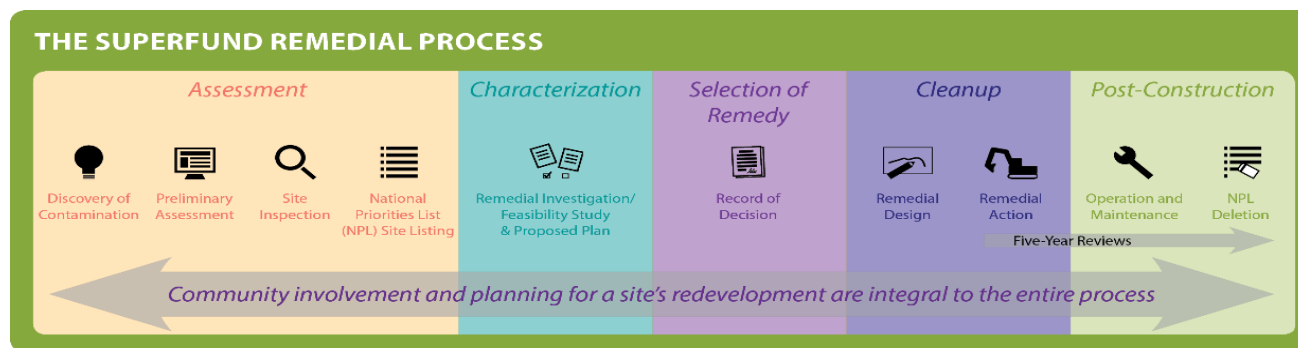


Figure 2 Diagram showing the Superfund remedial process. The Amcast site is at the end of the characterization stage.



EPA would like to hear from you!

Cedarburg, Wisconsin

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is inviting Cedarburg residents to talk to us about their questions and concerns related to the Amcast Industrial Corporation Superfund site. These conversations will help Agency officials better understand what information the community needs and how they would like to get it. EPA will use your feedback to write a Community Involvement Plan for the site.

EPA will schedule one-on-one, 30-minute interviews on **Wednesday, Nov. 2, between 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 3, between 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., and Friday, Nov. 4, between 12:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m., at Cedarburg City Hall, W63 N645 Washington Ave.** If you would like to schedule an interview, please call or email EPA contractor Caeli Cleary at 312-201-7769, or caeli.cleary@tetrattech.com.

If you are unavailable during these dates, you may contact us to schedule a phone call at another time. For questions or special accommodations, contact EPA Community Involvement Coordinator Phil Gurley at:

312-886-4448, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., weekdays,
or email gurley.philip@epa.gov

For more information, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/amcast-industrial>



Appendix G

Environmental Justice and U.S. EPA's commitment to the affected communities.

U.S. EPA defines environmental justice as fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people – regardless of race, color, national origin or income – with respect to development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

Fair treatment means that no group of people should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, governmental, or commercial operations, or the execution of federal, state, local, and tribal programs and policies.

Meaningful involvement means that potentially affected community residents have an appropriate opportunity to participate in decision-making about a proposed activity that will affect their environment and/or health. For more information on Environmental Justice, please visit the EPA Environmental Justice webpage: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice>

Find out more about what our regional offices are doing for environmental justice in your community!

Region 1 (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT)
5 Post Office Square - Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109
Phone: 617-918-1111

Region 2 (NY, NJ, PA, VA)
290 Broadway, 26th Floor
New York, NY 10007
Phone: 212-637-3000

Region 3 (MD, DE, DC, PA, VA, WV)
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Phone: 215-814-9000

Region 4 (AL, FL, GA, KY, MA, NC, SC, TN)
63 Forsyth Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: 404-562-9900

Region 5 (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI)
77 West Jackson Blvd. (MC T-175)
Chicago, IL 60604-3507
Phone: 312-853-2000

Region 6 (AR, LA, NM, OK, TX)
1840 Ross Ave, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
Phone: 214-665-2200

Region 7 (IA, KS, MO, NE)
11201 Resner Blvd.
Kansas City, MO 64621
Phone: 816-551-7003

Region 8 (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY)
1336 W. Hubbard Street
Birmingham, CO 80020-1129
Phone: 303-712-8312

Region 9 (CA, AZ, HI, NV, Pacific Islands)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
Phone: 415-947-3000

Region 10 (AK, ID, OR, WA)
1200 5th Ave (MD-142)
Seattle, WA 98101
Phone: 206-558-1200

Tools and Products for Environmental Justice Action

EJ programs have established the following tools and resources to facilitate and support the incorporation of environmental justice considerations into agency actions. These cross-cutting efforts aim to create consistency and clarity around how EPA identifies and addresses environmental justice concerns.

EISCREEN

To better meet the Agency's responsibilities related to the protection of public health and the environment, EPA has developed an environmental justice mapping and screening tool. EISCREEN provides users with a nationally consistent dataset and approach for combining environmental and demographic indicators. EPA made this tool publicly available online to be more transparent about how we consider environmental justice in our work, assist our stakeholders in making informed decisions, and create a common starting point for dialogue with partners and the public. It can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/eiscreen>.

Policy

EPA released two documents related to the consideration of environmental justice during rulemaking processes. The first of these, *Guidance on Considering Environmental Justice During the Development of an Action*, fosters an understanding and ensures consistency by EPA staff as they consider environmental justice during rulemaking actions. The second document, *Technical Guidance for Assessing Environmental Justice in Regulatory Analysis*, provides the technical underpinnings to fully consider environmental justice during rulemakings. Both documents can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice>.

Training and Workshops

EPA provides training and coordinates workshops for internal and external stakeholders on a broad range of issues relating to environmental justice and equitable development. OEJ ensures that Agency staff are trained on the most current data and resources available for the successful integration of environmental justice principles in their work. OEJ continually engages the public and other governmental partners to enhance the tools, methods, and practices for full integration and consideration of environmental justice concerns.

Science

Science plays an important role in providing a strong basis for action to protect the health and environment of populations that may be especially vulnerable to environmental hazards. EPA's new technical guidance for assessing environmental justice in regulatory actions was developed with participation from the public. OEJ is working with the Office of Research and Development to implement a new Environmental Justice Research Roadmap, which integrates environmental justice-related research across six National Research Programs. To read about these scientific developments, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/ej-2020-resources/documents>

Environmental Justice Legal Tools

The Legal Tools Development document, developed by EPA's Office of General Counsel, provides an overview of several discretionary legal authorities that EPA may consider using to more fully ensure that its programs, policies, and activities fully protect human health and the environment in minority and low-income communities. Some of the tools identified are already in use today; others have not yet been applied in an environmental justice setting. EJ Legal Tools is not a document prescribing when and how the Agency should undertake specific actions.



About the Office of Environmental Justice

For over 25 years, OEJ has worked to address the disproportionately adverse human health and environmental impacts in overburdened communities by integrating environmental justice considerations throughout the Agency.

Created in 1992, the Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) coordinates Agency efforts to address the needs of vulnerable populations by decreasing environmental burdens, increasing environmental benefits, and working collaboratively to build healthy, sustainable communities. OEJ provides financial and technical assistance to communities working constructively and collaboratively to address environmental justice issues. The Office also works with local, state, and federal governments; tribal governments; community organizations; business and industry; and academia, to establish partnerships seeking to achieve protection from environmental and health hazards for all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income.

To accomplish this mission, OEJ has created the following programs, policies, and activities to assist communities in building their capacity, to better engage federal agencies to help them understand environmental justice issues; to incorporate the voices of communities into agency decisions; and to provide tools and resources for promoting the principles of environmental justice.

Strategic Opportunities for Advancing Environmental Justice

An integral part of the Agency's mission is to focus our attention on the environmental and public health challenges that face our nation's minority, low-income, tribal, and indigenous populations. Our approach is both collaborative and strategic – working with partners to create holistic solutions that make a difference in communities through better policies, tools, and application of resources. These approaches have been captured through successive EJ strategic plans for the Agency.

The first of these plans largely focused on the creation of better tools, policies, and guidance to fill important gaps. Currently we are focused on three main strategic areas:

- We strive to strengthen and expand our governmental partnerships, particularly focused on the proactive efforts of state, tribal, and local governments to advance environmental justice.
- We are also focused on the implementation and use of the tools and guidance created previously in a way that is measurable and significant.
- We endeavor to demonstrate measurable progress on significant issues, including reducing disparities in childhood blood lead levels and working to ensure that all people served by small community and tribal water systems have drinking water that meets applicable health-based standards.



For More Information

To find out more about the Office of Environmental Justice, please call 202-584-2515, or visit: www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice

Call the EJ Helpline for a direct way to provide feedback and ask questions related to environmental justice. Call the Helpline at 1-800-969-6215 or email ejhotline@epa.gov

Pub Number
Date



November 2, 2017 marks the 25th anniversary of the creation of the EPA's Office of Environmental Justice.



OJ Milestones



Environmental Justice Integration

The EPA actively seeks to incorporate the principles of environmental justice at all levels of the Agency. In addition to developing a strategic plan that directly support the integration of environmental justice considerations internally and with other federal officials, the Agency partners with federal, state, local, and tribal departments, as well as with other stakeholders in communities, business and industry, academia, etc., to assist in the consideration and incorporation of environmental justice into their practices and processes.

The Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG)

The EJ IWG works to integrate the principles of environmental justice through the collaboration of 17 federal agencies and White House offices. Through the EJ IWG, the federal government assists overburdened and underserved communities in the implementation of comprehensive solutions to local environmental and human health challenges. The EJ IWG strives to ensure the federal government is accessible to communities and other stakeholders working to address environmental justice concerns; aware of the environmental justice issues confronting communities to facilitate coordinated and collaborative federal assistance; and accountable to explain federal efforts to achieve environmental justice.

International Human Rights & Rights of Indigenous Peoples

EPA collaborates with the U.S. State Department and other federal agencies to engage other countries in sharing best practices and approaches to provide environmental and public health protection to vulnerable populations. EPA conducts this work to help fulfill the U.S. international human rights treaty obligations.



National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

NEPA provides a framework to foster effective, efficient, and consistent consideration of environmental justice for decision-making on federal actions that affect the environment and human health. The Promising Practices for Environmental Justice Methodologies in NEPA Reviews, a compilation of approaches gleaned from a 4-year review of agency practices by more than 200 federal NEPA practitioners, consists of nine sections that provide guiding principles and specific steps to consider during the NEPA process. Federal agencies are implementing the Promising Practices through a variety of mechanisms, including cross-agency briefings and trainings, publications (e.g. articles, FAQs), and stakeholder engagement.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, each federal agency is required to ensure that all programs or activities receive federal financial assistance do not discriminate against recipients in any way based on race, color, or national origin. OEJ works closely with the EPA's External Civil Rights Compliance Office to share best practices, lessons learned, approaches, and tools to help prevent or resolve potential civil rights complaints.

Direct Support

The EPA provides direct support through financial and technical assistance to vulnerable, low-income, minority, and tribal communities seeking to understand and develop holistic solutions to their environmental and public health challenges. These resources are allocated to improve the quality of the air, land, and water so that communities may live, work, play, pray, and go to school in healthier, more sustainable environments.

Financial Resources for Creating Healthy, Sustainable & Equitable Communities

OEJ works directly with communities to implement solutions that address local environmental and health concerns. The Office provides financial assistance through two opportunities:

- The Environmental Justice Small Grants Program, which supports small projects that assist communities as they develop their vision for revitalization.
- The Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program, which supports implementation-level projects as communities seek to apply holistic solutions to their most pressing challenges.

These competitive grant opportunities support overburdened and underserved populations and create self-sustaining, community-based partnerships to improve local environments and public health. As of 2015, since its inception, the Office has awarded more than \$36 million in financial assistance to nearly 1,500 community-based organizations.

To find out more about either the financial assistance program or the impact made by funded projects please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/>

Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) Program

Through the EPA's national Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) program, communities enhance their ability to be meaningfully involved in the decision making process by learning how to better understand the science, regulations, and policies of environmental issues and EPA actions. The TASC program benefits communities by explaining technical findings and answering community questions, helping them understand complex environmental issues, and supporting their active roles in protecting healthy communities and advancing environmental protection. The TASC program can also provide opportunities for environmental education, bring diverse groups together, and strengthen community engagement.

TASC services can include: information assistance and expertise, community education, information assistance needs evaluation, and plan development other assistance to help community members work together to participate effectively in environmental decision-making.

Partnerships and Engagement

The EPA recognizes the necessity of meaningfully engaging stakeholders, such as through public participation, in an effort to sustain partnerships that involve those who are affected in the decision making process so that future decisions may best serve the interests of our most vulnerable communities. The Agency continues to encourage public stakeholder engagement as a critical component of community revitalization.

National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC)

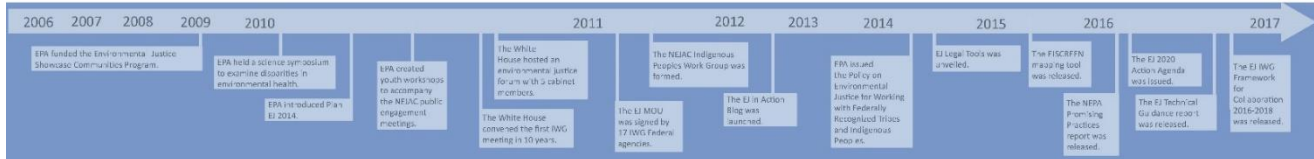
The mission of NEJAC is to provide independent advice and recommendations to the EPA Administrator about broad, crosscutting issues related to environmental justice. NEJAC also holds public meetings to receive comments, questions, and recommendations regarding environmental justice issues. Since 1993, NEJAC has developed dozens of recommendation reports and advice letters to help the agency better address the needs of disadvantaged and underserved communities.

To read NEJAC's reports on the twenty-year retrospective of its activities and impact, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/nejac>

Tribal Consultation & Indigenous People's Engagement

To engage more effectively with federally recognized tribes and all other indigenous peoples on their priority environmental and public health concerns, the Agency is working to implement the EPA Policy on Environmental Justice for Working with Federally Recognized Tribes and Indigenous Peoples. Under the leadership of OEL, EPA is implementing this Policy in coordination and collaboration with tribes, other federal agencies, states, indigenous organizations, and all other interested stakeholders, as well as addressing issues raised within the context of international human rights treaty obligations.

To learn more about EPA's efforts on addressing tribal and indigenous environmental and public health issues, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-tribes-and-indigenous-peoples>



https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2017-09/documents/epa_office_of_environmental_justice_factsheet.pdf