

Everett Smelter Program Park Cleanup Update



How can I stay updated on future cleanup plans for Everett Parks?

Visit Ecology's Park cleanup website:
ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites_brochure/asarco/parks/cleanup-info.html

Sign up for email updates by visiting:

eepurl.com/RR47b

Project Hotline:

(425) 446-1024

To request materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at (425) 649-7000, Relay Service 711, or TTY 877-833-6341.

In 2013, the State Legislature provided the Department of Ecology (Ecology) with funds to begin cleaning up arsenic contamination at parks within the Everett Smelter Cleanup Site. Ecology finished cleaning up American Legion Memorial Park in spring 2016. Earlier sampling demonstrated that the Viola Oursler Viewpoint and Wiggums Hollow Park also had levels of arsenic above state cleanup levels, but cleanup at these two parks has not yet been scheduled.

When will Ecology clean up the two remaining parks in North Everett?

Ecology hoped to continue park cleanup at the Viola Oursler Viewpoint and Wiggums Hollow Park in 2016. However, due to funding limitations, Ecology will be unable to continue cleanup work at this time. Ecology is actively working to get additional funds to support clean up of the parks. It will likely be at least a couple of years before park cleanup will resume.

Is contaminated soil at parks in North Everett dangerous to visitors?

Arsenic contamination at the parks does **NOT** pose an immediate risk to park visitors. However, exposure to arsenic over time may present long-term health risks. Swallowing or inhaling contaminated soil is the primary way that you can be exposed to arsenic and lead contamination. Arsenic is not absorbed through the skin.

How can I reduce my family's exposure to arsenic contamination in park soils?

You can limit exposure to arsenic by:

- Washing your hands and toys with soap and water after playing in the dirt
- Washing your hands before eating or putting anything in your mouth
- Taking off your shoes when you get home
- Wiping off your pet's dirty paws and bathing pets often
- Washing blackberries or other fruit from the park before eating



The Everett Smelter cleanup site, including the three public parks. Ecology completed cleanup at American Legion Memorial Park in spring 2016.