

For More Information About This Project, Contact:

Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
Toxics Cleanup Program

3190160thAvenueSE
Bellevue,WA98008

Local information line: (425) 446-1024

www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites_brochure/asarco/es_main.html

For More Information About Health Concerns, Contact:

Washington State Department of Health
Toll free (877) 485-7316

www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/oehas/pubs/arsenic.pdf

Snohomish Health District

Contact Mike Young at (425) 339-5250 for more information about exposure assessments for children with elevated blood lead test results, or contaminated soil waste designation.



Everett Smelter Cleanup

ARSENIC AND LEAD In the Soil

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY!

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Information Line (425) 446-1024



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Contaminated Soil in Northeast Everett

From 1894 to 1912, smelter operations in northeast Everett contaminated soil with arsenic and lead. ASARCO shut the smelter down in 1912 but contamination remains in the soil in areas of Everett. The worst areas of contamination, in the former smelter footprint, were removed. However, smoke stack emissions spread contamination throughout an area now known as the Everett Smelter Cleanup Site (map below). Arsenic levels above Washington State cleanup standards have been found in the soil in this area.

The Department of Ecology received funding to cleanup these remaining areas of contamination within the site boundary from a settlement with ASARCO. Work will begin in 2011 and will continue for approximately ten years. **This cleanup program is voluntary for property owners in this area and free of charge.** To find out if your property is part of the cleanup program, visit the website at: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites_brochure/asarco/es_main.html.



For more information, contact the Department of Ecology Toxics Cleanup Program at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites_brochure/asarco/es_main.html or (425) 446-1024

The Risk to Your Health

Swallowing and breathing soil or dust that contains arsenic or lead can contribute to poor health.

- Children under the age of six are at greatest risk because they normally put things into their mouths and their growing bodies are sensitive to the effects of arsenic and lead. When children put fingers, toys, food or other things into their mouths, any contaminated soil and dust that is on them may be swallowed.
- Arsenic may increase the risk of cancer and heart disease later in life.
- In children, lead is linked to learning difficulties, lower IQ and behavior problems.

Follow the steps outlined inside this brochure to reduce your family's exposure to contaminated soil.

Contact Your Healthcare Provider

If you are concerned about exposure to arsenic, lead or other contaminants, contact your healthcare provider for more information.



Tom the Gardener

Healthy Actions

Important Safety Guidelines

Healthy Actions are simple things you and your family can do to keep contaminated soil out of your home and out of your body. Even relatively small changes can help everyone to reduce their risk of contact with arsenic and lead.



Kick off your shoes

Dust and dirt are tracked inside on shoes.

Leave your shoes at the door or use a "wipe-off" mat to greatly reduce dirt and dust that gets into your home.

Provide a shoe rack or designate an area for shoes at your door.



Use plenty of soap and water

Dirt may be found on hands, toys, shoes, clothing and pets. Washing dirt off is a healthy thing to do. (Hand sanitizers do not remove arsenic and lead from hands.)

Wash your hands well before eating and after working or playing in the soil. Use a scrub brush to clean dirt from under your nails.

Wash heavily soiled clothing separately from other laundry.

Wash children's toys, bedding, and pacifiers frequently.



Keep pets clean

Pets walk, roll, and lie down in dirt and soil. When pets come into the house, their fur and paws bring in soil and dust too.

Wipe off all excess dirt and mud before your pet comes into your home. Brush and bathe your pet regularly.

Give pets their own "bed" or place within your home.



Mop, damp dust and vacuum

People and pets track in dirt or it can enter your home in the form of small dust particles through windows and doors. Dust and dirt settles on carpeting, throw rugs, curtains, upholstered furniture, as well as windowsills and bookcases.

Damp-dusting at least once a week decreases the amount of dust and dirt in your home.

Always use a damp-mop or a damp-cloth when you dust.

Vacuum often and use a vacuum with a HEPA filter.



Maintain your home and yard

Covering bare patches and keeping up with home-maintenance keeps harmful dirt away from your family.

Cover bare patches in your yard with a ground cover such as grass, gravel, wood/mulch product or native plants which require less watering and maintenance.

Maintain the painted surfaces of your home. Homes built before 1978 may have been painted with paint containing lead. When lead-paint chips or wears away, it becomes a major source of lead, both inside and outside the home.

Wear gloves and shoes when gardening or working in your yard. Take them off before coming into your house

If your home is inside the cleanup area, participate in the cleanup program and allow Ecology to sample your property and remove contaminated soil.



Eat a healthy diet

Iron, calcium and vitamin C help to reduce absorption of lead into the body.

Eat a diet rich with these nutrients. Include foods like broccoli, spinach, potatoes, dairy products and citrus fruits.



Wash fruits and vegetables

Arsenic and lead may be in dust and dirt found on the surface of fruits and vegetables. The edible portions of most fruits and vegetables do not take up much arsenic or lead from the soil. However, root vegetables (potatoes and carrots) and leafy vegetables (lettuce and kale) can absorb small amounts of arsenic.

Wash all fruits and vegetables to make sure all dirt is removed. Use a scrub brush on potatoes, squash, carrots, etc.

Grow your produce in raised beds made with arsenic-free materials.

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MOP • WASH • SCRUB • DAMP DUST • WIPE