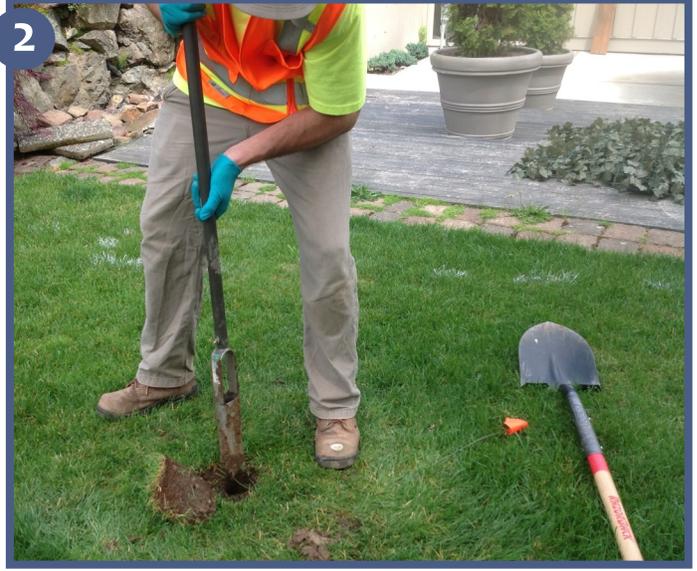


The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) is testing soil and cleaning up areas that were affected by the former Asarco smelter. The smelter contaminated soil with arsenic in north Everett. Ecology samples soil find out if the soil is contaminated and will need to be removed in the future.



Ecology will enter your yard to collect multiple soil samples using a tool called an auger.



The auger takes a sample that is two inches in diameter and two feet deep. Crews may be in your yard for several hours to collect samples.



The samples are tested on site using the XRF tool to find out if arsenic is present above state cleanup levels.



The holes in your yard will be refilled with clean sand or topsoil after sampling.

5



Soil sampling results will also be verified in a lab. Each soil sample will be divided into six inch segments that will be used to decide if cleanup is recommended.

6



You will receive your sampling results and a decision on whether your property needs to be cleaned up a few months after the sampling is complete.

How can I protect my family from soil contamination?

Arsenic in soil is not an immediate health threat and is not readily absorbed through the skin. Arsenic can pose a health risk if you swallow soil containing arsenic over a long period of time.

Take these steps to protect your family from contaminated soil:

- Wear gloves for yard work and wash your hands after playing or working outside
- Garden in raised beds and wash fruits and vegetables grown at home before eating
- Leave dirty shoes at the door
- Damp dust and mop often

Questions or concerns?

Call the Everett Smelter Project Hotline at 425-446-1024

Visit Ecology's website for more information at
www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites_brochure/asarco/es_main.html