

# Valley Refinishing



## Ecology proposes to remove site from state Hazardous Sites List

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has prepared this fact sheet pursuant to the Model Toxics Control Act Chapter 70.105D to provide you with information about a proposal to remove the Valley Refinishing site from its list of contaminated sites (known as the Hazardous Sites List).

Valley Refinishing is ranked "1" on the Hazardous Sites List. A rank of "1" represents the highest level of concern relative to other sites and a rank of "5" the lowest. You are welcome and encouraged to comment on this proposal through July 9, 2001.

### Site background

The Valley Refinishing site, a former furniture refinishing business, is located two miles east of Bonney Lake at 8422 214<sup>th</sup> Avenue East in Sumner, Pierce County. An operating antique furniture store currently resides on the property.

Ecology first became aware of the site in 1990 when an Ecology hazardous waste inspector saw soil stains on the property. Samples later taken indicated the soil was contaminated with very high

concentrations of volatile organic compounds.

In September 1990, Ecology placed the Valley Refinishing site on its Hazardous Sites List.

### The cleanup

After being fined in 1991 by Ecology for violating state hazardous waste laws, Valley Refinishing improved its waste management practices so chemicals were no longer spilling to the ground.

Then in 1994, Valley Refinishing dug several test pits in the area where the chemicals had spilled to determine if contamination remained in the soil. The results showed very low levels of volatile organic chemicals in the soil – well below levels Ecology considers a threat to human health and the environment. Considering the high volatility of the chemicals and the low permeability of the soil, the chemicals most likely volatilized into the atmosphere.

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*Volatile organic compounds are a group of organic compounds found in products, such as gasoline, paint, paint thinners, and solvents. They are typically used in liquid form and are defined as "volatile" because many can readily evaporate. They are harmful to humans if ingested (such as through drinking water).*

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**June/July 2001**

### Public Comment Period

June 8 through July 9, 2001

### Mailing Address

Toxics Cleanup Program  
Department of Ecology  
P.O. Box 47775  
Olympia WA 98504-7775

Please send written comments to Dave Smith, Site Manager, at the Ecology mailing address listed above or by voice (360) 407-6250 or e-mail [wsmi461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:wsmi461@ecy.wa.gov)

### Information Repositories

Department of Ecology  
300 Desmond Drive SE  
Lacey WA 98503  
Attn: Sherri Greenup @ (360) 407-6365

Pierce County Library  
18501 90<sup>th</sup> St. E.  
Sumner WA 98390  
(253) 863-5867  
Mon. – Wed. 11-9 p.m.  
Thurs. – Fri. 11-6 p.m.  
Saturday 11-5 p.m.

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## Why delist the site

This past May, Ecology inspected the site and found no evidence of hazardous chemical releases to the soil.

Based on the 1994 sampling results and the May 2001 site inspection, Ecology is recommending the site be delisted from the August 2001 Hazardous Sites List.

### **Public Comment Period**

**6/8/01 – 7/9/01**

## The public's role in removing the site from the Hazardous Sites List

You now have an opportunity to review the cleanup report and comment on Ecology's decision to remove the site from the Hazardous Sites List. Through July 9, 2001, your comments will be accepted in writing by Dave Smith, at the Department of Ecology-TCP, P.O. Box 47775, Olympia WA 98504-7775, phone (360) 407-6250, e-mail [wsmi461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:wsmi461@ecy.wa.gov).

If substantive comments are received, further investigation or cleanup may occur at the site.