

BRIGGS NURSERY DEBRIS FIELD



Removal from Hazardous Sites List Proposed

The Washington Department of Ecology proposes to remove the Briggs Nursery Debris Field from the Hazardous Sites List (required by the Model Toxics Control Act, Chapter 70.105D RCW). The site had pesticide-contaminated soil and sediment. In August 2002, the site was ranked on the Hazardous Sites List as a 2 (1 being high priority relative to other statewide sites; 5 being low).

Your comments on the supporting documentation for the proposed removal of the Briggs Nursery Debris Field from the Hazardous Sites List are welcome through **November 21, 2003**. The box to the right provides information about where to review documents as well as where to submit comments.

Site Background

The 5-acre Briggs Nursery Debris Field site is a small part of Briggs Nursery, 4407 Henderson Boulevard SE, at the intersection of Yelm Highway and Henderson Boulevard SE. The 120-acre Briggs Nursery is an active wholesale nursery owned and operated by Briggs Nursery, Inc. Gary Briggs owns the property.

A natural depression on the west side of the nursery property and east of the

central *kettle* (a depression formed from ice that has separated from a glacier) was used, from about the 1930s through the 1960s, as a disposal site for solid waste generated by the nursery. The central kettle area includes about 4.25 acres of wetland. The types of waste deposited in this depression included plastic sheeting, plastic and ceramic pots, tree stumps, scrap metal, wood debris, bottles, and other miscellaneous waste. The disposal area was covered with clean fill. As part of its nursery operations, Briggs Nursery, Inc. historically applied pesticides according to the manufacturers' specifications.

Water and sediment samples collected from the central kettle in 1996 were analyzed for chlorinated pesticides, other organic compounds, and metals. All chemical constituents were either undetected or were present at concentrations below MTCA cleanup levels.

During the fall of 2001, Briggs Nursery, Inc. began an independent cleanup of solid waste in the natural depression. 16,000 cubic yards (including 4500 cubic yards of clean top soil) of excavated soil were screened and stockpiled on-site. About 3700 tons of solid waste were removed from the debris disposal area, segregated, and disposed of at Roosevelt Landfill. Approximately 12 tons of scrap metal were

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FACT SHEET

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PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON PROPOSED REMOVAL FROM HAZARDOUS SITES LIST:

October 21, 2003 to
November 21, 2003

Comments and requests for updates should be directed to Lisa Pearson, Site Manager, at the Ecology address listed above or at (360) 407-6261.

INFORMATION REPOSITORIES

The supporting documentation can be reviewed at the following locations:

www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/sites_information.html

www.ecy.wa.gov, then click on "Public Events Calendar"

Ecology Southwest Regional Office
address listed above

Olympia Timberland Library
313 8th Avenue SE
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If you have special accommodation needs, please call (360) 407-6300, (360) 407-6306 (TDD), 711, or 1-800-833-6388 (TTY).

recycled. 210 cubic yards (21 dump truck loads) of wood debris, including tree stumps, were removed and ground up. Two 55-gallon drums of used oil filters were recycled. 15 55-gallon drums containing empty plastic containers, flattened metal paint cans, flattened drums and other metals containers, plastic sheeting, and an inert white powder were disposed of or recycled. Screened stockpiled soil was sampled and tested for chlorinated pesticides, other organic compounds, petroleum hydrocarbons, and metals. Pesticide product containers with solids of liquids residue were not found in the solid waste debris. However, chlorinated pesticides (including aldrin, DDD, DDE, DDT, dieldrin, and endosulfan) in soil at low concentrations were detected in the northwest corner of the excavation. Contamination was found between 12 and 15 feet below the ground surface, but not below 17 to 22 feet. Contaminated soil was kept segregated.

Ecology and Gary Briggs consented, in August 2002, to an agreed order to conduct interim actions to clean up pesticide-contaminated soil and sediment. The interim actions included: investigating the extent of buried solid waste and pesticide-contaminated soil and sediment; excavating and disposing of buried solid waste; removing contaminated soil and sediment; preventing erosion and stormwater run-off; sampling soil and sediment to confirm that contamination has been removed. Approximately 10,000 cubic yards (1000 dump truck loads) of solid waste combined with soil were removed and disposed of at Olympic View Landfill in Bremerton. This total includes 2700 cubic yards (270 dump truck loads) of pesticide-contaminated soil. About 10,000 cubic yards of clean fill which was on top of the waste material was excavated, sampled, and analyzed for metals and pesticides. These chemical constituents were either undetected or

were below residential cleanup levels. The clean fill will remain on-site and be reused for general purposes.

Ecology's Recommendation

The requirements of the August 2002 agreed order have been met. The closure report presents the results of the interim actions as well as confirmational sampling. The sampling results show that contamination has been removed. Removing the source of contamination effectively cleaned up the site.

Ecology Wants Your Comments!

Interested citizens may review and comment on the supporting documentation for the proposed removal of the site from the Hazardous Sites List through **November 21, 2003**. The recommendation is for the debris field only, not the entire 120-acre property. Other potential areas of concern will be addressed when the nursery operation closes. To review more detailed site documents than the supporting documentation, contact Ecology's regional records center at (360) 407-6365 to schedule an appointment.

Written comments should be sent to Lisa Pearson, Site Manager, at the Ecology address listed in the box on page one.

