

# Wenatchee School District Chelan County



## Proposed Removal of Four Wenatchee Schools from the Hazardous Sites List

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) is proposing to remove the following sites, all located within the city of Wenatchee, from the Hazardous Sites List:

- Lewis and Clark Elementary, F/SID 5045747, 1130 Princeton Avenue, ranked a 3
- Lincoln Elementary, F/SID 8905363, 1224 Methow Street, ranked a 3
- Washington Elementary, F/SID 1104071, 1404 Washington Street, ranked a 3
- West Side High School, F/SID 4267507, 1521 9th Street, ranked a 4

Sites can be ranked from "1" to "5". A rank of "1" is the highest level of environmental concern compared to other sites on the list, and a rank of "5" is the lowest.

### Site Background

All four sites were former orchards and subjected to historical pesticide applications. One particular pesticide, lead arsenate, was widely used to control the codling moth prior to 1950. Unfortunately, this often resulted in lead and arsenic contamination. In 2002, Ecology tested the soil and found lead and arsenic contamination exceeding state cleanup levels.

### Cleanup of Contamination

During the summer of 2006, Ecology staff managed cleanups at all four sites. These cleanups used excavation, deep mixing, or a combination of the two, to reduce or eliminate the lead and arsenic contamination.

Generally, soil with arsenic levels above 100 parts per million (ppm) was excavated prior to deep mixing. Then the contaminated soil was disposed of at the Greater Wenatchee Landfill. Once excavation was complete, deep mixing could take place. This involves mixing the contaminated soil with clean soil from beneath the contamination. This is very effective in reducing lead and arsenic concentrations throughout the soil profile.

Once the deep mixing was complete, clean topsoil was imported and new seed or sod was placed down to establish grass. All sites were restored to their original condition.

Ecology staff verified through confirmational sampling that the contamination had been either removed or reduced to below state cleanup levels. Therefore, Ecology proposes removing the four sites from the Hazardous Sites list. They no longer pose a threat to human health and the environment.

### Ecology Welcomes Your Comments!

Documents relating to the cleanup are available for public review. A public comment period will run from November 14, 2007 through December 14, 2007. The box on the right provides information on where to review documents and submit comments. Ecology will review and respond to all comments received.

For information about other opportunities for public involvement such as meetings, hearings, open houses and workshops, please visit Ecology's Public Involvement Calendar at <http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/pubcalendar/calendar.asp>. While you are at the calendar page, you may click on the link for Frequently Asked Questions about Effective Public Commenting and learn more about the public comment process.

### November 2007

#### Ecology is Accepting Comments

November 14, 2007 through  
December 14, 2007

#### Review Documents at

WA Department of Ecology  
Central Regional Office  
15 W Yakima Avenue, Ste 200  
Yakima WA 98902  
Roger Johnson, Public Disclosure  
509/454-7658

Wenatchee School District  
Administration Building  
235 Sunset Avenue  
Wenatchee, WA 98801

#### Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Web Site

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/4\\_wenatchee\\_schools/4\\_wen\\_schls\\_hp.htm](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/4_wenatchee_schools/4_wen_schls_hp.htm)

#### Submit Comments or Technical Questions to

Jeff Newschwander  
WA Department of Ecology  
Toxics Cleanup Program  
15 W Yakima Avenue, Ste 200  
Yakima WA 98902  
509/454-7842  
[jene451@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:jene451@ecy.wa.gov)

#### Direct All Other Questions to

Frosti Smith  
Public Involvement Coordinator  
WA Department of Ecology  
15 W Yakima Avenue, Ste 200  
Yakima WA 98902  
509/454-7841  
[fsmi461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:fsmi461@ecy.wa.gov)