

### Soil Cleanup at Fort Nisqually Park

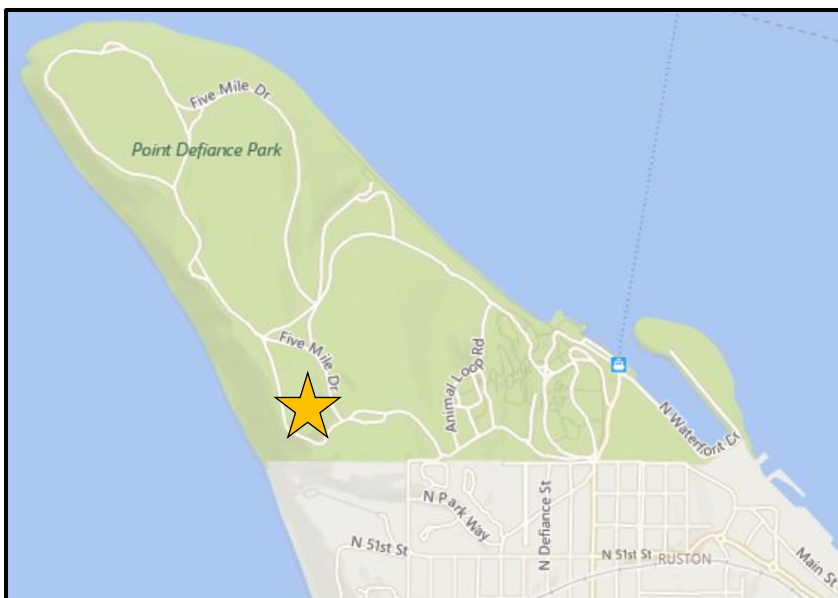
The Washington Department of Ecology is cleaning up soil contamination at Fort Nisqually Living History Museum in Tacoma. This is part of Ecology's ongoing work to clean up arsenic and lead. These toxic metals were carried by the wind from the former Asarco copper smelter and contaminated soil over a large area of Puget Sound.

The **Soil Safety Program** provides free soil sampling and cleanup for play areas at schools, childcares, parks, and camps. Funding for this work comes from a \$94.6 million settlement from Asarco.

### Soil cleanup will start in January 2016

Surface soil at Fort Nisqually is over the state cleanup level for arsenic and lead. We plan to remove soil from inside the Fort and nearby meadow area (see map on back). We will replace the contaminated soil with clean soil and plant grass seed. Also, we will add mulch to the picnic area near the parking lot.

The Fort and picnic area will reopen in March 2016, but please stay on the new pathway to allow the grass to grow. The meadow cleanup area will re-open once the grass is fully grown.



Fort Nisqually is located within Point Defiance Park in Tacoma.

**Take  
Healthy  
Actions**



**WASH YOUR HANDS**  
with soap and water



**TAKE OFF  
YOUR SHOES**  
at the door



**WASH CHILDREN'S  
TOYS & PACIFIERS**  
frequently



**CLEAN YOUR PETS**  
before they enter  
your home

### More Information

#### Questions about the cleanup:

Amy Hargrove, Dept. of Ecology  
(360) 407-6262

[Amy.Hargrove@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Amy.Hargrove@ecy.wa.gov)

#### Questions about Ft. Nisqually:

Tom Dargan, Metro Parks  
Tacoma  
(253) 305-1017

[TomD@tacomaparks.com](mailto:TomD@tacomaparks.com)

#### Health information and soil sampling:

Glenn Rollins, Tacoma-Pierce  
County Health Department  
Phone: (253) 798-3503

E-mail: [DirtAlert@tpchd.org](mailto:DirtAlert@tpchd.org)

More information online at:  
[www.DirtAlert.info](http://www.DirtAlert.info)



## What are the health risks?

Contamination levels at Fort Nisqually **do not pose an immediate health threat**. However, long-term exposure to **arsenic** can contribute to heart disease, diabetes, and certain cancers. **Lead** is especially harmful for young children. It can damage developing nervous systems and contribute to behavioral problems. Take **healthy actions** (see front) to lower your exposure.

## What's in the soil in my yard?

To find sampling results for yards near Pt. Defiance Park, visit our online database at <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/areispublic/>. If you do not find your results in the database, contact the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department (see front box).

## Please Continue to Enjoy Your Parks

We previously worked with Metro Parks Tacoma to clean up soil at Baltimore, Optimist, Kandle, Titlow, Jane Clark, and Vassault parks.

¿Habla Español? Si necesita esta información en español, contáctenos a [preguntas@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:preguntas@ecy.wa.gov).

Cleanup Site ID #: 3657

Facility Site ID #: 89267963

To request ADA accommodation for disabilities, or printed materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at (360) 407-6300.

Persons with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711.

Persons with speech disability may call TTY at (877)-833-6341.