



Centerville Road Superfund Site soil vapor investigation update

This fact sheet provides an update on actions taken and continuing for the investigation of chlorinated volatile organic compounds (CVOCs) in soil and groundwater related to the metal-salvage and paint-reconstitution operation formerly located on land now occupied by the Birch Lake Villas townhome development.

Site location

The Centerville Road Site, located in Ramsey County's White Bear Township, is a Minnesota State Superfund Site. The site is a 5.22-acre parcel currently occupied by 40 individually owned townhomes called the Birch Lake Villas. Formerly, the site was occupied by a metal-salvage and paint-reconstitution operation. The property is located east of Centerville Road, north of Birch Lake Boulevard, west of Interstate-35E, and south of the railroad tracks.

Site history

- From about the mid-1930s to the mid-1970s, the site was operated as a metal salvage and paint reconstitution operation.
- In 1984 and 1985, remedial action was taken on the eastern portion of the site. This included the removal of approximately 200 to 250 barrels of solid paint waste and several hundred cans of resin and scrap metal.
- In the early to mid-1990s, CVOCs, including tetrachloroethene (PCE), trichloroethene (TCE), cis-1,2-dichloroethene, and vinyl chloride, were detected in shallow groundwater.
- In 2000, the site was reconstructed into the Birch Lake Villas townhome development.
- In 2007, a groundwater investigation and risk assessment for soil vapor and surface water were performed at the site. The results of the groundwater monitoring led to the recommendation of continued groundwater monitoring. The result of the soil vapor monitoring indicated vapor concentrations of CVOCs above state screening levels. The MPCA determined that additional groundwater and soil vapor monitoring should continue.
- In May 2008, soil vapor sampling ports were installed through the basement floors of several of the townhomes, to collect sub-slab vapor samples. Several of the samples collected indicated sub-slab vapors containing CVOCs above state screening levels. As a result, the MPCA determined that further soil vapor investigation should be performed.
- In May 2011, sub-slab soil vapor samples were collected to add to the samples collected in 2008. In addition, many samples were collected across the site to reassess the distribution of soil impacts and to assess the potential for soil vapors to migrate. As a result, the MPCA recommended additional soil vapor sampling in select areas.
- Additional sub-slab vapor sampling was conducted in early 2012. No volatile organic compounds were found above action levels. The vapor sampling points were sealed and additional vapor testing is not recommended.

What's next?

Because no volatile organic compounds were found above action levels in the early 2012 sub-slab vapor sampling, the MPCA plans to delist the Centerville Road Superfund Site from Minnesota's Permanent List of Priorities (the list of state Superfund sites).

For more information

Relevant reports and documents are available for review at the MPCA, 520 Lafayette Road N., in St. Paul. Files referenced include Voluntary Investigation and Cleanup (VIC) VP2260, VP2261, VP2262 and VP2960; and Superfund SR379.

If you have questions, please call Wayne Sarappo, the Project Leader, 651-757-2690 or 800-657-3864, email wayne.sarappo@state.mn.us.