

Overview

The Hardesty Environmental Cleanup Newsletter is a U.S. General Services Administration publication about the environmental project near the former federal complex at Hardesty and Independence avenues.

During World War II, the complex was a U.S. Army Depot, storing military supplies and chemically treating soldiers' clothing. Over time, some of the chemicals leaked into the environment. The site is now undergoing an environmental study to determine the type and extent of pollutants due to historical operations.



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Environmental Testing: Past, Present and Future

Over the years, GSA and its contractors have conducted more than 20 investigations to evaluate environmental conditions related to the former Hardesty Federal Complex. GSA's current environmental testing focus is on pollutants in groundwater on- and off-site. Dry cleaning by-products and fuel – likely due to World War II operations – are present, and Trichloroethylene (TCE) is the primary chemical of concern.

Preliminary data in a spring 2013 groundwater investigation indicated TCE was closer to the ground's surface than previously recorded just north of the complex. Additionally, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued more stringent screening levels than were previously in place. GSA quickly consulted with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services and an independent human health risk assessor. These experts indicated that despite the change in TCE depth and the newer science, there was no immediate known threat to human health.

As a precaution, GSA and environmental contractor Terracon Consultants, Inc., expanded groundwater sampling in the residential area north of the site in summer 2013. The expanded sampling continues today, as does a Human Health Risk Assessment that has been underway for a few years.

According to MDHSS, the primary potential pathway of exposure to TCE for nearby residents is vapor intrusion, which occurs when air inside a house or building becomes contaminated by a chemical as it evaporates from the soil or groundwater under the building. MDHSS' initial evaluation of the Hardesty situation suggests TCE in the groundwater near Hardesty is not evaporating at levels of concern for human health. This determination was made by using sampling data and a Missouri Department of Natural Resources-approved scientific model.

To verify the scientific model, GSA tested two homes north of the complex for vapor intrusion in August and September 2014. The TCE vapor level under – not inside – one of the homes was higher than the scientific model had predicted. While this is not an immediate risk to resident health, GSA and its partners are now working with other home owners north of the complex to ensure residents are not at risk of a vapor intrusion. These test will be conducted over the next several months, and GSA will share results and human health assessments with the community as they become available.



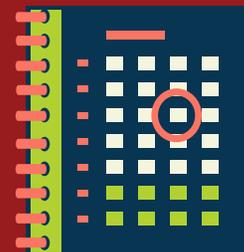
Public Information Session to be Held Oct. 29

Get the latest sampling results and information about the Hardesty environmental project at the upcoming Public Information Session.

Date: Wednesday, Oct. 29

Time: 5-7 p.m.

**Place: North-East KC Library
6000 Wilson Road
Kansas City, MO 64123**



Public Information Session (cont.)

There will be a presentation at 6 p.m. about environmental sampling to-date, the next steps in the cleanup process, and opportunities for public involvement in decision making. Representatives from GSA, MDNR, MDHSS, KCHD, EPA, environmental engineering firm Terracon Consultants, and current complex owner Hardesty Renaissance will be at the library throughout the evening to answer questions and discuss the project.

Spanish and Vietnamese interpreters will be onsite, and printed materials will be available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Somali. Please contact GSA with accessibility or communication requests.

Join the agencies Oct. 29 to learn about the work going on in your community!

Contact Info

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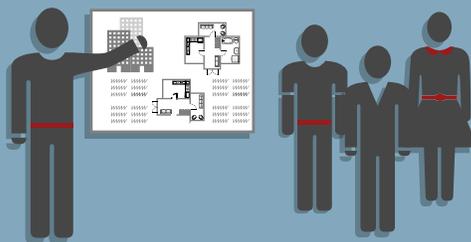
For site redevelopment information, contact current property owner Hardesty Renaissance Economic Development Corporation, 425 Washington St., Suite 410, Kansas City, MO 64105.

Become a Community Ambassador

GSA is looking for a few community members to help lead Northeast Kansas City through the Hardesty environmental project. Do you like helping your neighbors? Do want to be the first to know about developments in the environmental cleanup project? Community Ambassador may be a perfect role for you!

As a Community Ambassador, you will:

- Be a liaison between the community and the government;
- Receive updates from GSA to share with your friends, neighbors, church, co-workers, sports teams, and anyone who lives or works in the area;
- Serve your community in a voluntary leadership role;
- Encourage your network to attend public meetings and share their thoughts;
- Funnel your neighbors' ideas, concerns, needs and questions to GSA; and
- Play a critical part in discussions and decision making, as an advocate for your community.



For more information or to volunteer to become a Hardesty Environmental Project Community Ambassador, attend the Oct. 29 Public Information Session or contact GSA at (816) 926-6903 or r6environment@gsa.gov, Attn: Leslie LaMar.

GSA Releases Community Involvement Plan

Environmental remediation can be a long, complicated process, so GSA created a Community Involvement Plan (CIP) to keep you informed and provide opportunities for you to get involved in the decision making.

The plan explains the environmental cleanup process, describes GSA's community involvement goals, and outlines planned public outreach activities. The CIP also discusses the former federal complex's environmental history and community characteristics and concerns.

You can view the plan at the Oct. 29 Public Information Session, on-file at the North-East Kansas City Library, or online at <http://gsa.gov/hardesty>

Acronyms

GSA - U.S. General Services Administration
MDNR - Missouri Department of Natural Resources
MDHSS - Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
KCHD - Kansas City Health Department
EPA - Environmental Protection Agency
TCE - Trichloroethylene
CIP - Community Involvement Plan

Share your Feedback

Share your feedback about this newsletter or other Hardesty environmental topics at the public session or by contacting GSA directly at (816) 926-6903 or r6environment@gsa.gov.

For more information, visit
<http://gsa.gov/hardesty>
<http://dnr.mo.gov/env/hwp/fedfac/hardesty.htm>