



VASQUEZ BOULEVARD/INTERSTATE 70 (VB/I-70) SUPERFUND SITE UPDATE

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY • REGION 8 • APRIL 2006

Last Chance to Receive Soil Sampling and Soil Cleanup

This is EPA's Last Year for Soil Sampling and Soil Cleanup

Soil sampling and soil cleanup, if necessary, is FREE!

EPA's Vasquez Boulevard and Interstate 70 (VB/I-70) residential soil cleanup Superfund project will be coming to an end this year. Once the VB/I-70 Project is completed in the fall of 2006, any necessary soil cleanup will become the responsibility of the property owner.

> If you have not had your soil sampled to determine whether your property requires a clean up, you have until the end of July to provide EPA access to sample your property.

> If your property needs a cleanup you have until the end of August to provide EPA access to cleanup your property.

Not all yards need to be cleaned up. Only about 800 of the more than 4,000 yards in the area have levels of lead/or arsenic high enough to require a cleanup.

Community Health Program

The VB/I-70 Community Health Program identifies and responds to children potentially exposed to lead and arsenic. The program educates neighborhood residents on identifying and preventing lead exposure from all sources, including lead-based paint and lead in soils. The program also provides education on the medical condition known as soil pica-the craving and eating of soil on a regular basis.

Families with children *under* the age of six and pregnant women are offered biological screening and testing at neighborhood clinics. The Community Health Program responds to any resident identified with an

elevated level of lead and/or arsenic. Responses include conducting an environmental investigation to prevent further exposure and referral to medical services.

Community Health Workers have been walking door-to-door in your neighborhood providing residents with health education and site information, and encouraging participation in screening and testing. Visits with neighborhood residents will continue through 2006. Many residents will receive a second visit this year that provides an update on site activities and reinforces health messages from the first visit. For more information, please call Jay Salas 720-865-5463.

Background

The VB/I-70 site includes all or portions of several northeast Denver neighborhoods: Elyria, Swansea, Cole, Clayton, southwest Globe Ville, and a small section of Curtis Park.

The EPA has been replacing soils in *some yards* within the VB/I-70 Superfund site since 1998 because these yards have too much lead and/or arsenic in the soil from lawn care products, smelter, or industrial sources. EPA replaces these yards with clean soil, re-landscaping, and funds a multi-agency, community-inspired health program for area residents.

For more information, please contact:

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