



# Health Study Prompts Revision In Site Cleanup Plan

**Greiner's Lagoon Site**  
Fremont, Ohio

November 2002

## Mark your calendars

EPA will hold an information session to answer questions about the Health Consultation Study for the Greiner's Lagoon Site.

**Date:** December 11, 2002

**Time:** 6 to 8 p.m.

**Place:** Birchard Public Library  
423 Croghan Street  
Fremont, Ohio

## Next steps

- Cleanup work expected to begin in 2003
- EPA will notify residents before work starts

## For additional information

If you have questions or concerns about the site, please contact:

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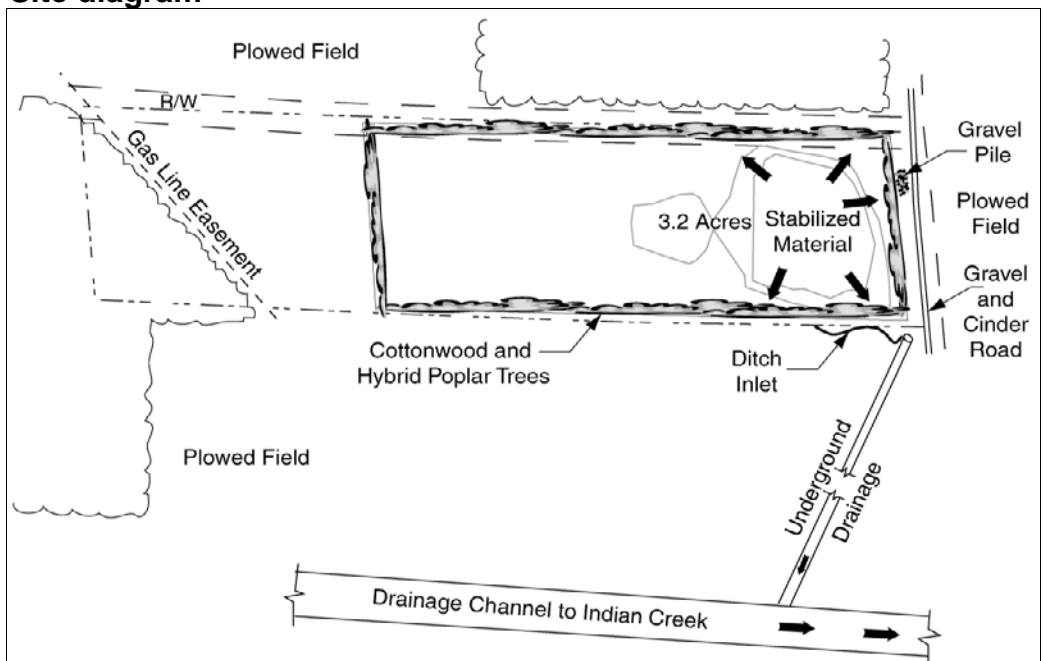
Site information, including the Health Study, is also available at the Birchard Public Library (see address above). Please call (419) 334-7101 for hours of operation.

Results of a health study have prompted U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 to revise its cleanup plan for the Greiner's Lagoon Superfund Site. EPA will present the changes at a meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 11, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Birchard Public Library, 423 Croghan St., in Fremont. EPA officials will also discuss the health study results.

At an August 2001 meeting, a number of Fremont residents said they were concerned about the potential long-term health risks of having toxic materials left at the site under a cap, or cover. These materials include volatile organic compounds (materials that evaporate easily, such as solvents), semivolatile organic compounds, PCBs and metals. In response to these concerns, EPA asked the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry to do a health consultation study. This study evaluated long-term health risks and recommended steps to ensure public health.

After reviewing the ATSDR study, EPA determined that the site does not pose a hazard to area residents now, or in the future if a cap is installed. EPA will place a cap on the site and monitor the ground water. The original plan called for stabilizing the materials in place with concrete before putting on the cap, but that step is no longer needed. The cap will now be a soil cover with grass and trees. These are the main changes in the revised plan. Future use of the site will be limited, and EPA will evaluate the cap to make sure it works.

## Site diagram



## Results of health consultation study

ATSDR looked at how people might come into contact with toxic chemicals at the site and what might happen to them. People at risk are construction workers at the site, people trespassing on the site and people who live nearby.

There are several ways people might come into contact with chemicals. They could:

- Touch or ingest contaminated soil or inhale vapor or dust at the site.
- Touch, ingest or inhale volatile organic compounds from contaminated ground water at the site.
- Touch, ingest or inhale contaminants in surface water or sediment, either at the site or somewhere else.
- Touch or ingest ground water just under the surface, but away from the site.
- Touch or ingest ground water from an aquifer away from the site.


According to the study, there is little chance for anyone being affected by the toxic materials at the Greiner's Lagoon site. Construction workers might come into contact with contaminants when they dig two to four

feet below the surface. Proper clothing, however, would reduce the risk of chemicals touching the skin. Workers wearing respirators would not inhale any fumes.

Local residents would not be at risk from the materials on the site unless they trespass there. They could be at risk if contamination leaks into the ground water and moves off the site. That's unlikely, though. There is ground water flowing through a level of sand about four feet beneath the surface. That water could become contaminated, but people don't get their drinking water from that level. Wells in the area go much deeper, into a bedrock source that hasn't been affected by the contamination, and most likely won't be affected. The ground water near the site, however, will be monitored to ensure that this doesn't happen. Chemicals could move off site through surface water, such as the drainage ditch or Indian Creek. But no chemicals have been found in that water, only low levels of metals.

Trespassers would most likely be unaffected in all cases because the chemicals will be at least two feet underground. The proposed cap will also reduce the chance of anybody touching the chemicals.

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