Figure 4. Exposure Pathway Figure

REMEMBER: For a public health threat to exist, the following three conditions must all be met:

- Contaminants must exist in the environment
- People must come into contact with areas that have potential contamination
- The amount of contamination must be sufficient to affect people's health

Are the Environmental Media Contaminated?



Are People Exposed
To Areas With
Potentially
Contaminated Media?



For Each Completed Exposure Pathway, Will the Contamination Affect Public Health?

ATSDR considers:

Soil
Ground water
Surface water and sediment
Air
Food sources

For exposure to occur, contaminants must be in locations where people can contact them.

People may contact contaminants by any of the following three exposure routes:

Inhalation Ingestion Dermal absorption ATSDR will evaluate existing data on contaminant concentration and exposure duration and frequency.

ATSDR will also consider individual characteristics (such as age, gender, and lifestyle) of the exposed population that may influence the public health effects of contamination.

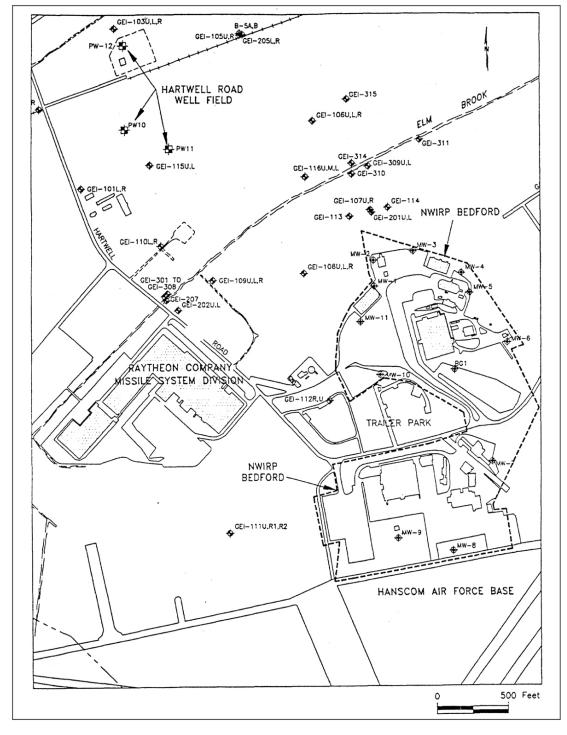


Figure 5. Hartwell Road Well Field

Source: Dames & Moore 1992a.