

COMMUNITY UPDATE

THE MISSION OF DTSC IS TO PROTECT CALIFORNIA'S PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT FROM HARMFUL EFFECTS OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES BY RESTORING CONTAMINATED RESOURCES, ENFORCING HAZARDOUS WASTE LAWS, REDUCING HAZARDOUS WASTE GENERATION, AND ENCOURAGING THE MANUFACTURE OF CHEMICALLY SAFER PRODUCTS.

Dear Community Member:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is overseeing cleanup activities on the Riverside Agricultural Park (Ag Park) property, located at 7020 Crest Avenue in Riverside. This cleanup consists of removing soil containing chemicals called polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from Ag Park, and is expected to be completed by the end of 2017. To address community concerns, DTSC has also conducted soil sampling at certain neighborhood properties bordering Ag Park and at City of Riverside (City) properties including Rutland Park and a City's right-of-way bordering the Ag Park on the west. The following is a detailed update for onsite work and a summary of the neighborhood sampling results for Ag Park.

What are PCBs?

- PCBs belong to a broad family of man-made organic chemicals known as chlorinated hydrocarbons. PCBs were domestically manufactured from 1929 until manufacturing was banned in 1979. PCBs vary in consistency from thin, light-colored liquids to yellow or black waxy solids. Due to their chemical properties, PCBs were commonly used in hundreds of industrial and commercial applications.
- PCBs can cause short-term and long-term health effects. For more information about PCBs including their potential health effects, please go to: <https://www.epa.gov/pcbs/learn-about-polychlorinated-biphenyls-pcbs#healtheffects>

Ag Park Cleanup

- DTSC has provided full-time oversight for air monitoring and dust control at Ag Park, and has overseen the collection of over 7,000 soil samples. DTSC has also overseen the excavation and hauling away of over 11,900 truckloads of soil. It is anticipated that soil removal will be completed by the end of 2017.
- After soil removal work is completed, a full report will be prepared for DTSC's review to document all Ag Park cleanup activities. DTSC is working in partnership with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), and will consult with US EPA on the effectiveness of the final phase of the cleanup. Upon completion of its review, and concurrence from US EPA, DTSC will make the final report available to the public.

Neighborhood Soil Sampling

- In response to community concerns, DTSC developed a Neighborhood Sampling Plan (NSP) and conducted soil sampling in the neighborhood near Ag Park. DTSC prepared the NSP with input from the Ag Park Neighborhood Work Group, California Department of Public Health (CDPH), California Air Resources Board (CARB), United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), and the City of Riverside. The purpose of the NSP was to collect soil data to determine if PCBs may have migrated to the neighborhood from the Ag Park via windblown dust and if so, if it presents an unacceptable potential health risk. DTSC shared a Draft Sampling Plan with the community and released it for a 30-day public comment period. After considering all comments, DTSC finalized the Sampling Plan and began the neighborhood soil sampling in mid-summer 2017.
- DTSC sampled 27 properties, including two properties owned by the City of Riverside (Rutland Park and a right-of-way bordering Ag Park on the west), where there is public access. DTSC prepared a report for each property where sampling was conducted. DTSC has shared the sampling results with the City of Riverside (for City properties) and with each resident (for their own property). For privacy reasons, the

individual sampling results are confidential, however, a summary of the sampling results are discussed below.

How Were Neighborhood Soil Samples Collected and Analyzed?

- Soil samples were collected within 6 inches of the ground surface to evaluate dust deposits. Single use, individually wrapped and sealed scoops were used to collect the samples which were then transferred to laboratory certified glass containers. In some cases, deeper soil samples (up to 2.5 feet below ground surface) were obtained using a manual hand-auger to bore down to the desired depth.
- All samples were analyzed for PCBs by DTSC's Environmental Chemistry Laboratory (ECL), using US EPA approved analytical methods. US EPA also took some duplicate or split samples and analyzed them independent of DTSC's ECL laboratory.
- DTSC and US EPA have determined that the levels of PCBs are below a level of health concern for both the City properties, and the residential properties adjacent to Ag Park that participated in the neighborhood sampling program. As a precautionary measure, DTSC intends to conduct additional sampling at one residential property where two (2) of DTSC's soil sample results detected higher PCB concentrations. Following is a summary of the sampling results:
 - A total of 119 soil samples (111 from both front and back yards of residential properties and eight (8) from City public access areas) were collected and analyzed. In addition, 25 duplicate or split samples were also collected and all 144 samples were analyzed.
 - Of the 144 total samples, 103 showed no detection of PCBs at all, 36 of the samples with detection of PCBs were below the conservative US EPA screening level of 0.22 milligram per kilogram (mg/kg). It should be noted that PCBs detected above the screening level of 0.22 mg/kg may also be considered health protective for residential screening depending on levels of detection and a risk assessment.
 - Of the remaining five (5) samples, two (2) were at the backyard of two of the residential properties adjacent to Ag Park and measured at 0.275 mg/kg or less and very close to the screening level of 0.22 mg/kg. Based on a health risk evaluation, DTSC and US EPA consider the results below a level of health concern. One (1) sample at the City property was at 0.529, which is also below (almost one half of) a non-residential screening level of 0.94 mg/kg. All three (3) sample results are below a level of health concern.
 - Two (2) of the samples at one residential property's backyard adjacent to Ag Park were above the US EPA cleanup goal of 1.0 mg/kg. However, the US EPA analyzed a split of one of the samples and showed that the result was below 1.0 mg/kg. As a precautionary measure, DTSC intends to conduct additional sampling at this residential property to further evaluate this backyard.
 - US EPA collected and analyzed soil samples (split samples) of the same areas sampled by DTSC and all US EPA's sample results indicate that the properties sampled are below a level of health concern.

Who Can I Call for More Information?

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Amit Pathak, DTSC Project Manager, at (714) 484-5468 or e-mail: Amit.Pathak@dtsc.ca.gov

In addition, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is conducting two public health consultations for the community: one on PCB concerns in the neighborhood beyond Ag Park, and the other on potential exposure to contamination on the Ag Park before July 2003. If you have any health or exposure concerns that you believe may be related to the Ag Park Site, please contact the Site Assessment Section of the CDPH, Ms. Nancy Villasenor, (English or Spanish), at (510)620-5845 or e-mail: Nancy.Villasenor@cdph.ca.gov

We appreciate your participation in the development of the NSP, and your patience while we complete the cleanup work at the Ag Park. DTSC is committed to the ongoing protection of public health and the environment, and the completion of this cleanup project.