



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

FACT SHEET

Beech Creek Superfund Site

Waynesboro, Tennessee

No. 1

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This Site information sheet summarizes the history of the Site, present Site status, and future activities for the Site.

If you have questions or comments about the Site, please contact us at the numbers listed below:

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Site History

The Beech Creek Superfund Site (the Site) is located in a mainly rural, unincorporated section of Wayne County, Tennessee near the intersection of U.S. Highway 64 and Clifton Turnpike. The Site begins at the north end of the former Waynesboro City Landfill (the "landfill") and extends 0.6 miles along Beech Creek. The Site includes Beech Creek itself and some areas of surrounding soils where contamination has been identified.

The Site is difficult to access due to the significant elevation difference between Beech Creek and the surrounding areas. The Site and surrounding areas consist of forested, hardwood areas, old logging operation access roads, springs, and creeks. The upper reaches of Beech Creek flow through land owned by the City of Waynesboro and a timber company. Residential properties adjoin the creek approximately 1.8 miles downstream of the Site.

Beginning no later than the late 1960s and continuing into the 1970s, industries and residents in the Waynesboro area disposed of household and industrial wastes at the landfill. From approximately 1969 through 1972, waste liquid polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), spent and broken electrical capacitors containing PCBs, and other PCB-contaminated wastes, were disposed of in the landfill. The landfill was closed in 1974.

Based on the results of samples obtained from Beech Creek, EPA has determined that PCB contamination currently found at the Site resulted from the migration of waste from the landfill prior to its closure and capping.

Recent Activities

In October and November 2010, the Tennessee Department of Environmental & Conservation (TDEC) sampled groundwater, drinking water wells, sediment and surface water in and around Beech Creek, both on and downstream from the Site. TDEC detected levels of PCBs in the sediment in Beech Creek. As a result, TDEC requested that the U.S. EPA follow up with additional sampling in Beech Creek.

At TDEC's request, U.S. EPA performed a Removal Site Evaluation of the Site in August 2011. PCBs were documented at levels

that exceed U.S. EPA health-based action levels in both the 2010 and 2011 sampling events. EPA determined that a removal action is warranted to protect human health and the environment.

An administrative settlement agreement and order on consent (AOC) between the U.S. EPA and potentially responsible parties (PRPs) to perform the removal action was signed in early 2014. The agreement requires the PRPs to further investigate and cleanup PCB contamination exceeding U.S. EPA health-based action levels. The PRPs completed the investigation of the Site during the summer of 2014 and have received U.S. EPA approval to conduct the removal action in 2015.

Upcoming Activities

Removal activities are expected to begin at the Site in early 2015. Below is a list of proposed activities:

- Mobilization of construction equipment and personnel to the Site in late February 2015.
- Initial construction activities during March 2015 include:
 - Construct the temporary materials handling area,
 - Setup of construction trailers and employee parking area, and
 - Construction temporary access roadways.
- Excavation and off-site disposal of floodplain soils and creek sediment from April through mid-summer.
- Placement of backfill and other restoration activities from May through late-summer.
- Demobilization from late-summer to early-fall.

The figure below shows the location of the Site and areas near the Site where activities related to the removal action will be occurring this year.

