

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region III
POLLUTION REPORT

Date: Friday, July 2, 2004

From: Christine Wagner

Subject: NRC #727005

Better Homes Trailer Park Clandestine Lab Assessment
Not yet available, Sugar Grove, VA

POLREP No.:	1	Site #:	942
Reporting Period:		D.O. #:	
Start Date:	7/2/2004	Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:		Response Type:	Time-Critical
Demob Date:		NPL Status:	Non NPL
Completion Date:		Incident Category:	Removal Assessment
CERCLIS ID #:		Contract #	
RCRIS ID #:			

Site Description

On or about 6/28/04, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), in conjunction with Virginia State Police, confiscated evidence related to the production of methamphetamine (meth), an illegal drug manufacturing operation. Chemicals including but not limited to solvents, corrosives, red phosphorus, and iodine were believed seized from the illegal operation.

Mr. Jack Tolbert, Virginia DEM Haz-Mat Officer for Smyth County, responded and provided assistance. During his visit, he was informed that the family in the neighboring trailer was suffering ill health effects which they suspected were caused by the actions taking place at the location discussed above. Mr. Tolbert met with the family who described symptoms such as respiratory distress and burning eyes and throat.

Current Activities

Mr. Tolbert, on behalf of the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM), requested EPA assistance to perform sampling to determine if a release of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants occurred from this operation. Specifically, VDEM is concerned about the potential for chemicals in the septic system.

Planned Removal Actions

The OSC will prepare a tasking assignment for START to perform sampling of the affected home. Based on the results of the sampling, EPA will determine if a removal action is needed.

response.epa.gov/betterhomes