

# **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE MARINO PROPERTY SITE**

This fact sheet was written to give you information about hazardous chemical contamination at the Marino Property Site, located at 50 Walnut Street in Middletown. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has determined that areas of the property have been heavily contaminated with hazardous chemicals for many years. Over the coming weeks and months, EPA will be collecting more environmental samples from the property to better understand the nature and extent of the chemical contamination. Once the environmental investigations are complete, EPA will consider what cleanup options make sense for the property. The CT Department of Public Health will work with EPA to continue providing you with up to date information about the Site. Please use the contact information on the reverse side of this fact sheet if you have questions or need more information.



## **BACKGROUND**

The Marino Property Site was formerly used for rubber manufacturing. Records also indicate that the City of Middletown operated a landfill and incinerator on the property and that municipal and industrial wastes were dumped on the property for many years. EPA investigations show that there are containers of waste products, incinerator ash, and other wastes buried on the property. Contamination was also found in surface soil.

## **WHAT CONTAMINANTS WERE FOUND AT THE SITE?**

EPA found heavy metals (such as arsenic and lead), many volatile chemicals (including benzene, toluene and xylene), and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The contamination was found in surface soil and deeper soils.

## **HAVE I BEEN EXPOSED TO CONTAMINATION FROM THE SITE?**

First, it is important to understand that in order to be harmed by a chemical, you must come into direct contact with it through touching, eating or breathing, and it must get into your body. This is called being exposed. If you are not exposed to a chemical, it cannot harm you.

According to the environmental testing information we have collected so far, some portions of the Site have contamination present in the surface accessible soil. If you come into contact with the contaminated soil, you could be exposed.

Whether exposure to soil could result in health effects depends on many factors, including the type and amount of chemical in the soil and how often you are exposed. We do not have evidence indicating that anyone has been exposed to enough contamination to make them sick.

With regard to drinking water, your drinking water comes from a public supply that is tested for regulated contaminants.

## **WHAT THINGS MIGHT I SEE AT THE SITE?**

In the coming weeks and months, EPA will be doing more environmental testing at the Marino Property Site. You might see workers wearing protective clothing such as white suits, respirators, hard hats, gloves, and boots. This level of protection is required by law because workers may come into direct contact with contaminated materials everyday, as part of their job. You also may see trucks and other vehicles at the property. You may see equipment for monitoring air quality.



## **WHAT IF I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?**

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