

## **Our Goal:**

### **To Respond Effectively to Public Health Issues at CT Hazardous Sites**

The Hazardous Site Assessment & Evaluation Program is a component of the Environmental and Occupational Health Assessment Program in the CT Department of Public Health.

Since 1989, our program has provided a coordinated response to all aspects of hazardous site evaluation including health assessment and consultation, health education and risk communication, community involvement and health study. We work on National Priorities List (NPL) Superfund sites, state Superfund sites, Brownfields, and other hazardous sites. We provide assistance for the U.S. EPA, the CT Department of Environmental Protection, CT local health departments, and private consultants.

Our program is funded by the federal Agency For Toxic Substances & Disease Registry (ATSDR), part of the U.S. Public Health Service, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. All services are provided without charge.

CT Department of Public Health  
Environmental & Occupational Health Assessment Program  
MS # 111CHA  
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Hartford, CT 06134-0308  
[www.ct.gov/dph/wastesites](http://www.ct.gov/dph/wastesites)

**Connecticut Department of  
Public Health  
Environmental & Occupational  
Health Assessment Program**

# **Hazardous Site Assessment Program**

**Superfund Sites  
Brownfields  
State Hazardous Waste Sites  
Sites of Community Concern**



Tel: (860) 509-7740

# Our Program And Services

## Site Assessment

For people living and/or working near hazardous sites, it is critical to understand the health implications of these sites.



Through the evaluation of environmental sampling data, community concerns and relevant health information, we develop a site assessment that identifies and explains what the public health issues are. Equally important is identifying those issues that do not have health consequences. We do not collect environmental samples as part of our work.

Site evaluations are based on the nature, extent, concentration and toxicity of contamination, with particular emphasis on identifying pathways of human exposure. These evaluations may often include indoor spaces (e.g., vapor intrusion issues). In our site assessment work we:

- conduct site visits.
- review existing data for the site.
- talk with people who have concerns or information about the site.
- make specific health-related recommendations.

## Who Can Use Our Services?

- ⇒ Municipal Government – City Planners
- ⇒ Environmental Agencies – CT DEP, EPA
- ⇒ Local Health Departments
- ⇒ Citizen Groups
- ⇒ Licensed Environmental Professionals
- ⇒ Other **Brownfields** Constituents

## Health Education & Risk Communication

Providing understandable, timely health information about real and perceived environmental health risks is an integral part of our work. Equally important are conducting effective risk communication and community involvement strategies. Our program provides these services by:

- Assessing communication and education needs.
- Developing easy to read fact sheets and other printed materials geared to the target audience.
- Organizing and conducting public meetings and community forums to inform and involve local citizens regarding site issues.
- Providing training programs for local health departments and others concerned with environmental health issues.



## How Can We Provide Assistance?

- ⇒ Technical Assistance in Investigation & Risk Assessment
- ⇒ Input & Support for Remediation Alternatives
- ⇒ Assistance in Addressing Community Concerns
- ⇒ Identify Real Versus Perceived Risks

## Exposure Assessment & Health Data Review

If our review of environmental data indicates that exposures are significant enough to cause adverse health effects, we can review available health outcome data (e.g., cancer), to provide information on the health status for an area. If warranted, health studies may be conducted which further examine the relationship between health outcome and contamination at a site. Our activities may include:

- Reviewing relevant environmental data to assess exposures.
- Reviewing relevant health outcome data.
- Developing exposure models or applying existing exposure models to health outcome data.
- Designing and conducting health studies when warranted.

## For More Information, Contact

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