



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Dona Park Neighborhood Assessment

Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas

Oct. 2011

This Fact Sheet will tell you about...

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History

The Dona Park neighborhood is located immediately south of the former ASARCO/Encycle-Texas, Inc. (Encycle) facility. The Dona Park neighborhood includes residences north of Interstate 37 and south of Up River Road along Golla Drive, Manchester Avenue, Dona Drive, and Vernon Drive. Although multiple investigations and soil removal actions have been conducted since 1994, the community remained concerned about possible remnant contamination of residential soils. In addition, allegations were raised of buried drums in a vacant lot located near the intersection between Up River Road and Manchester Avenue, adjacent to the Dona Park neighborhood.

The Dona Park Neighborhood Assessment (DPNA) began in the Fall of 2010 with a two-phase Pilot Study, that included sampling of residential soils to verify previous assessments and cleanups. During the Pilot Study, 59 residential properties were sampled. Of the 59 residential properties sampled, three were found to have concentrations of lead and/or cadmium that exceeded the corresponding Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Protective Concentration Levels (PCLs) for residential soils. The optimal sampling depth and the representative sampling design determined in the Pilot Study were extended to all of the remaining residential properties.

In addition, a geophysical survey was completed at the vacant lot on the north end of Manchester Avenue where drums were allegedly buried. The survey revealed a subsurface anomaly that was later

explored for the presence of buried drums or hazardous substances via excavation.

Current Status

The expanded DPNA has been completed. All residential yards exhibiting contaminant concentrations exceeding the TCEQ PCLs have been remediated.

The subsurface exploration at the vacant lot has been completed. The anomaly identified in the geophysical survey was determined to be concrete and rebar debris. No drums or containers of any kind were observed in the subsurface. Sample results from the bottom of the excavation did not reveal any exceedences for chemicals of concern.

A sampling effort by TCEQ and EPA to screen for organic hazardous substances at the former Encycle facility identified Galbestos siding as a significant source of hazardous organic compounds. As a result, soil and sediment samples from areas between the former Encycle facility and the Dona Park neighborhood were collected and tested for these chemicals. Results of the sampling indicate the organic chemicals associated with the Galbestos siding have not migrated towards the community.

Blood and urine testing for metals was offered as a free service by the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS) from July 7 through July 10, 2011. This service was offered to any current or former resident of the Dona Park neighborhood or the surrounding area.

Future Plans

The EPA and TCEQ will continue to monitor the demolition and remediation of the former Encycle facility. Onsite air monitoring overseen by TCEQ will continue during the demolition and remediation process. The TCEQ will continue to implement the Ambient Air Monitoring Program in the community to ensure that demolition and remediation activities at Encycle do not impact the adjacent neighborhoods.

The EPA and the TCEQ remain committed to addressing any environmental issues/concerns in the Dona Park neighborhood and its surrounding area.

The EPA and the TCEQ will host a community meeting and availability session to discuss the results of the Dona Park Neighborhood Assessment with participation by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

- When: November 10, 2011
- Where: St. Theresa, Parish Center
1302 Lantana Street
Corpus Christi, Texas
- Time: 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM
6:00 – 6:30 availability session
6:30 – 8:00 meeting w/Q&A
8:00 – 8:30 availability session

For More Information

Information about the Dona Park Neighborhood Assessment is available on the TCEQ Remediation Division website at:

<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/remediation/sites/donapark>

Information about the former Encycle facility is available on the TCEQ Remediation Division website at:

http://www.tceq.texas.gov/remediation/sites/encycle_facility/encycle

Contact Information

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To have your name and address added to the Dona Park mailing list call 1.800.533.3508 (toll-free).

For press inquiries, please contact TCEQ Media Relations at 512.239.5000 or the EPA Region 6 Press Office at 214.665.2200.

More information about EPA Region 6 can be found on the Internet at:

<http://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/region6.html>



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