

From: Anthony_Dennis@doh.state.fl.us
To: youfeelwell@cox.net
Cc: [Robin Hallbourg](#); [John Mousa](#); Paul_Myers@doh.state.fl.us
Subject: RE: Koppers Off-site Soil Sampling Results
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 6:03:59 PM
Attachments: [Koppers_Soil_HC_7-17-2009.pdf](#)
[Stephen_Foster_June_OA_Fact_Sheet_final.doc](#)
[KoppersAugust09CommunityUpdate.pdf](#)
[Cabot_Koppers_Update_Fact_Sheet_February_2010_Final_lcs.doc](#)

Suzanne,

Thanks for your questions and concerns regarding Koppers. We are working closely with the County and City of Gainesville to evaluate the health risks to residents near the Koppers site. Per our conversation I have attached the following documents:

Health Consultation, prepared by the Florida Department of Health regarding off-site surface soil and the health risks;

Community Update, prepared by the Florida Department of Health regarding the Stephen Foster Neighborhood which also has some contact information;

Stephen Foster Fact Sheet, prepared by the Florida Department of Health that contains some of the same questions you are asking and includes that the chemicals found in the neighborhood near Koppers are not very water soluble and do not tend to accumulate in plants and that you should always rinse fruits and vegetables before eating;

Finally, Stephen Foster Fact Sheet prepared by the EPA.

The Health Department is not aware of off-site soil sampling results from a class action law suite and has only reviewed off-site soil data provided by AMEC Earth and Environmental as required by the EPA who manages this site. The contaminants of concern are arsenic, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and dioxins/furans. All the sampling results reviewed to date have not indicated an immediate health hazard to area residents and the Health Department has recommended the following precautions:

Children should avoid playing in the 15'-20' City of Gainesville easement just west of the Koppers facility western boundary fence between NW 26 Avenue and NW 30 Avenue. Children under the age of six are at a higher risk of exposure from incidental ingestion (swallowing).

Area residents should practice good general hygiene including hand washing with soap and water after contact with bare soil.

Recently, more additional off-site testing has been done in the Stephen Foster Neighborhood West of the Koppers border to further delineate the contaminated area. The contamination will be delineated to the Florida Residential Soil Cleanup Target Level as Robin indicated. It is my understanding that these areas will be cleaned up or controlled to this standard. Your address, 606 NW 32 Place, is approximately 600 feet to the North and West of the area still being delineated. I am not aware of further testing toward the NW where dioxin concentration decreased relatively close to the Koppers boundary. Additional off-site soil

testing is proposed to the South, East, and NE of Koppers.

The Health Department is in the process of reviewing the latest additional off-site soil results and I will provide you with our review when complete although I do not foresee a change in the current health consultation and recommendations to date.

Unfortunately, it is my understanding that there are only a couple of labs in the country that are certified to do the dioxin testing and that it is very expensive. The Health Department does not have the capability to do this testing but has recommended to the EPA that this sampling be conducted. At this time you could contact the EPA regarding testing or I could provide you with the labs that are certified to do this.

The Health Department is also working to address the counties request for a review of cancer data for this area, at this point they are in the initial phase of evaluating information related to the site. The Health Department will continue to address health issues associated with the site and provide information to the community as it becomes available. Please contact me if you have additional concerns or questions and I will provide you with the latest review of the off-site sampling data when complete.

Anthony Dennis

Environmental Health Director

Alachua County Health Department

Florida Department of Health

(352) 334-7930

-----Original Message-----

From: youfeelwell@cox.net [<mailto:youfeelwell@cox.net>]

Sent: Sunday, March 21, 2010 1:51 PM

To: Robin Hallbourg; Dennis, Anthony D; jjm@alachuacounty.us

Subject: Koppers Off-site Soil Sampling Results

Importance: High

Dear Robin, Anthony, and John,

Thanks Robin for this information and I appreciate you talking with me.

Here is my situation. I am trying to determine if there is a health risk to my 5-year old daughter and myself before jumping on the "panic" train. We play outside in our soil and garden FREQUENTLY! There seems to be little to no information in our vicinity. Contaminants don't always take a "logical" path. I am hearing about contamination up to 2 and 1/2 miles away from neighbors signed on board the class action suit. This information, however, is not available to you unless you are signed on the class action suit. Contaminants include: arsenic, copper, chromium, dioxin, pentachlorophenol, and polyaromatic hydrocarbons. I am anxious to get my site tested or get information that convinces me of no harm, but I am not anxious to hop on the NY attorney band wagon. Especially when the agreement gives them the ability to collect "fees" if the lawsuit is unsuccessful. I do not feel comfortable giving these attorneys the ability to freely spend my money and make me be liable down the line for money they spent if this is a farce.

MY PRIMARY INTEREST IS THAT OF THE RISK TO OUR HEALTH. Secondarily, is

the effect on my property value and the ability to sell in the future. In the Escambia County Kopper's contamination incident there were 404 residents relocated (358 in 1997 and an additional 46 in 2006). The EPA report does not give a contamination radius that I have found to determine their distance from the Kopper's site boundaries.

Can you direct me to more information to ease my fears? What is the cost of the tests for the above mentioned 6 contaminants? What company's in town can do this testing? Is there a mechanism to get Alachua County, EPA, or Kopper's to do more extensive testing further north AND west, AND to include all of these contaminants? This would be more than what is reflected on your map (arsenic, chromium, copper, pentachlorophenol, polyaromatic hydrocarbons, etc.). I know there are "budget constraints" to consider, however, when there is a potential health risk of this magnitude, there must be a means by which to get this health information for the people affected to get us all working on the same team. I know the three of you are in the positions that are designed to protect the public's health.

Thanks for your assistance and concern.

Suzanne Wynn, BSCE

---- Robin Hallbourg <Robin@alachuacounty.us> wrote:

> Ms. Wynn,

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> Attached is the mapped summary of off-site soil sampling results. The state standard for of dioxin (indicated by TCDD TEQ on the map) is 7 parts per thousand (ppt) or .000007 milligram per kilogram (mg/kg). The majority of the off-site contamination is directly west of the open areas of the site, not to the northwest. Samples on NW 32nd Avenue are within acceptable levels approximately 200 feet west of the property line (sample SS46AA). Arsenic was also very low in this sample as well.

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> Please do not hesitate to contact me (at the number below) or John Mousa (352/264-6805) if you have any questions regarding the data. Anthony Dennis, Environmental Health Director, Alachua County Health Department can be reached at 352/334-7931 to answer questions you may have related to health.

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> Sincerely,

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> Robin Hallbourg

> Alachua County Environmental Protection Department

> 352/264-6825

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For up-to-date information about H1N1 Swine Flu visit <http://www.myflusafety.com> or call 877-352-3581