

# UPDATED SOIL LEAD GUIDANCE FOR CERCLA SITES



- What action did EPA take and why
- Screening Levels vs Cleanup Levels
- Bunker Hill lead cleanup levels
- What's next

# Lower Residential Soil Lead Screening Levels

- Applies to lead in soil at residential sites
- 1994 screening levels 400 ppm
  - Goal: 5 percent or less probability of a typical child having a blood lead level greater than 10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$
- 2024 screening levels 200 ppm/100 ppm
  - Goal: 5 percent or less probability of a typical child having a blood lead level greater than 5 or 3.5  $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$

## Why did EPA make this change?

- Reducing childhood lead exposure is one of EPA's top priorities
- Current science shows lead exposure is more dangerous to children's health than previously understood

## Screening Levels

- Used to identify areas that may need further study to determine if a cleanup is necessary
- Consistently applied to all contaminated areas being evaluated

## Cleanup Levels

- The level at which EPA will take action to clean up a contaminated area
- May change from site to site
- Based on site specific factors such as:
  - Risk factors
  - Community input
  - Existing lead concentration in the area

# Current Bunker Hill Residential Soil Lead Action Levels

## Box Residential Soils

- Removal and replacement of soils with lead greater than or equal to 1000 mg/kg

## Basin Residential Soils

- Removal and replacement of residential soils with lead greater than or equal to 1000 mg/kg
- Install barrier such as vegetative barrier to limit migration of soils with lead between 700 and 1000 mg/kg

## Box and Basin Goal

- 5 percent or less probability of a typical child having a bloodlead level  $> 10 \mu\text{g/dL}$  and a 1 percent or less probability of a typical child having a blood lead level  $> 15 \mu\text{g/dL}$ .
- Panhandle Health District offers consultations and follow-up with all children who test over  $3.5 \mu\text{g/dL}$

## Next Steps

### Evaluation

- Perform evaluation to ensure cleanup levels and actions remain protective
- Work with cleanup partners to review decades of historical data including more than 7000 properties that have been cleaned up
- Evaluation will take six months to a year or longer

### Decision

- Continue to follow current plan if no changes are required
- If changes are required, EPA will ask for community input on a new proposed plan
  - Consider all public comments
  - EPA will issue a formal decision (remedy, or cleanup plan)



# THANK YOU

An aerial photograph of a lush, green forested valley. A river winds through the center of the valley, surrounded by dense evergreen trees. In the background, rolling mountains are visible under a clear blue sky with some light clouds. The overall scene is a beautiful representation of a natural landscape.

## Additional Information

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