

The Maywood Project Site

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers • New York District
Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program • January 2006
www.fusrapmaywood.com



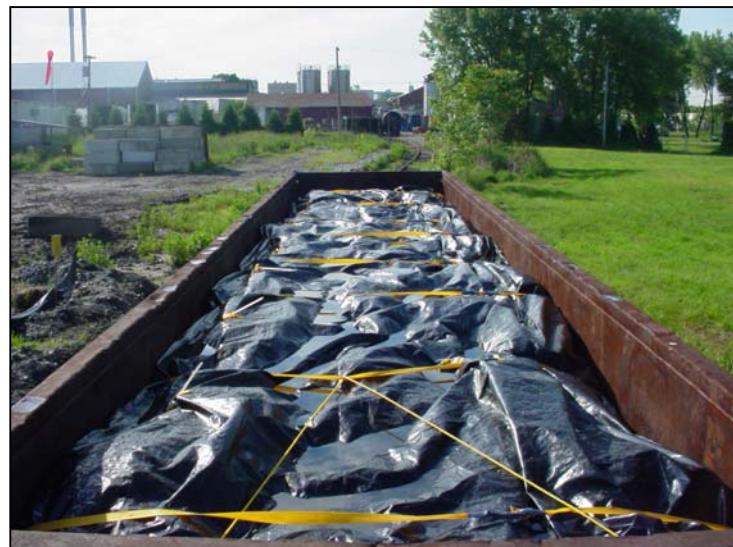
Maywood Site Meets 2005 Soil Shipment Goal

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has successfully reached its cleanup goal for the 2005 fiscal year (October 1, 2004 - September 30, 2005) at the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) Maywood Superfund Site. By September 30, the Corps' environmental cleanup contractor, Shaw Environmental, Inc., had loaded and shipped over 47,000 cubic yards of contaminated material for offsite disposal. This met the budgeted goal for soil shipments in the fiscal year. As of mid-January 2006, an additional 110 rail cars containing nearly 8,000 cubic yards of material have been shipped. Each rail car holds about 70 cubic yards of material.

Since assuming responsibility for FUSRAP in 1997, the Corps has completed cleanups on all residential and municipal properties that are part of the Maywood Site, and is currently addressing the remaining commercial and government-owned site properties. Of those, twelve have been completed or are nearing completion, and work at five others is currently underway.

The Corps has excavated and shipped over 166,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil for offsite disposal since 1997. As noted, 47,000 cubic yards of material were shipped in fiscal year 2005 alone, significantly more than in any previous year. This demonstrates the Corps' ongoing pursuit of efficiency and productivity improvements. Completion of all Maywood site property cleanups is expected by 2012.

The primary contaminant of concern at the Maywood site is thorium, a naturally occurring radioactive ore that was processed at an industrial plant that formerly occupied one of the vicinity properties. Process waste materials containing leftover amounts of thorium were disposed of in onsite waste pits and lagoons, and eventually carried offsite through a local surface stream, flooding events, and use of the material as fill.



A rail car loaded and ready for shipping from the Maywood Site.



Cleanups Moving Forward



A Site property excavation underway. All adjacent homeowners were consulted prior to the start of the work.



A lightweight aluminum trench box is used to shore up the walls of deeper excavations, instead of building shoring from scratch.



Excavations are done in discrete areas called survey units, allowing technicians to systematically confirm that cleanup goals have been met prior to backfilling.





A temporary fence divides active excavation areas from ongoing business operations at a Site property, allowing the business to stay open during cleanup.



A truck being loaded with soil at an excavation site. All trucks are checked for residual contamination before leaving work areas.



Site Groundwater Study Advances



Look for this symbol to point you to our regular newsletter feature highlighting ongoing activities at the Maywood Site.

A study of groundwater in the site area reached an important milestone in July. Final reports on the Remedial Investigation and Baseline Risk Assessment groundwater studies were completed and made available to the public after approval by state and federal environmental regulators. These reports summarize the findings of an extensive field-sampling program that collected data on groundwater conditions, and are available online or at the project Public Information Center (see page 4).

Together, these reports summarize the condition of groundwater in the site area, assess potential impacts to the groundwater from known site contaminants, and evaluate potential health and ecological effects

of exposure to site contaminants. This information will help scientists working on the study to determine what actions if any need to be taken. That determination will be outlined in a follow-on report known as a Feasibility Study, or FS. The FS is currently being prepared by project staff and is expected to go to the regulators for review in Spring 2006. Once that review is completed, the FS document will be revised, and opportunities for public review and comment will be advertised in local media.

Community Outreach

Community outreach is an important part of our project. Recently, Lori Brady-Maljanian, a project Field Engineer with Shaw Environmental, visited with Girl Scout Troop 108 in Dumont (see photo below). Lori explained how she became interested in civil engineering and talked about her responsibilities at the Maywood Site. She described how contaminated soil is first identified through sampling and surveying, and then excavated and safely disposed of. More generally, Lori explained the benefits of education in computer science, engineering, math and technology, and noted the many opportunities for girls in these emerging fields. If your organization is interested in learning more about our project, please contact our Public Information Center at 201-843-7466 or visit us online at www.fusrapmaywood.com.



Field Engineer Lori Brady-Maljanian (upper right) and members of Girl Scout Troop 108.

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