

The Maywood Project Site

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers · New York District
Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program · June 2004
www.fusrapmaywood.com

More Progress on Commercial Property Cleanups

Steady progress at the FUSRAP Maywood Site continues as cleanups of several more commercial properties have been completed or are underway. Since the last *FUSRAP Update* newsletter in October 2003, cleanups have been completed at two properties in Maywood, while work has started at three more Maywood properties and two sites in Lodi (see map on page 2). During this period, nearly 14,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil have been safely excavated from these locations for transport and disposal at an out-of-state facility permitted to accept the material. To date, the Corps has removed nearly 33,000 cubic yards of material at various commercial properties that are part of the Maywood Site. Another 20,000 cubic yards have been removed from non-commercial (including government) properties being addressed by the Corps. That is enough soil to fill approximately 700 railroad cars of the type used to transport this material.

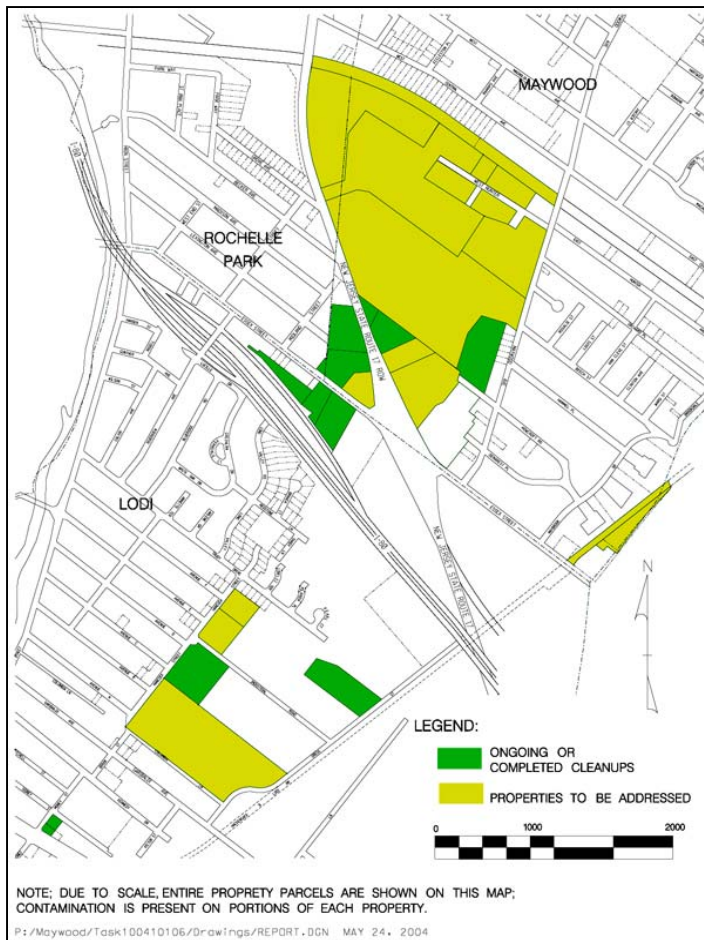
Communication is a key element in every cleanup undertaken by the Corps. Prior to the start of current activities in Maywood and Lodi, nearly 500 notices were mailed to residences and businesses in nearby neighborhoods. These mailings identified the location of the work sites, provided a summary of the planned activities and listed a contact for additional information.



A radiation safety technician taking measurements at a commercial property excavation site.

More Progress on Commercial Property Cleanups (cont'd)

These notices in turn prompted several recipients to request and receive further information from the project point of contact. In addition, Corps and contractor representatives met with local officials on numerous occasions while planning for the cleanups, and have maintained contact as needed as the work proceeds. The Corps also works extensively with property owners at each work site to coordinate cleanup activities with ongoing business operations. The success of this approach is clear. To date, business activities at the commercial properties have not been interrupted while steady progress on the Maywood Site cleanup continues. As of this writing, cleanups at several more properties are scheduled to begin shortly.



Safety Is Serious Business

Safety is the number one priority when dealing with potentially hazardous environmental conditions at the Maywood Site. Recent work at one project location is a good example of how seriously we take safety. Completed surveys to locate buried anomalies such as metal or other objects at one cleanup site in Maywood had indicated a possibility of buried drums. Because the exact contents of these drums were not known, project safety professionals had to develop a site-specific plan to safely handle any number of chemicals and other contaminants that could be encountered. Workers



Workers in protective clothing uncovering a buried metal object at a Maywood property.

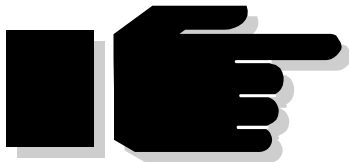
Safety Is Serious Business (cont'd)

specifically trained and experienced in handling these types of hazards were then assigned to the task. Prior to the actual cleanup, the plan was put to the test in a series of field exercises with all the necessary equipment in use. Local public safety officials were also notified of the work in advance and invited to observe the field exercises.

Extensive safety and health measures were also taken to protect the public. Air monitors were set up around the site perimeter at both upwind and downwind locations to detect dust or chemical vapor releases during excavations. In addition, 24-hour air particle monitoring stations were also established. Data collected by these monitors were routinely reviewed to ensure that action levels requiring additional protective measures were not exceeded. While this did not occur, procedures for a work stoppage and safety stand-down to allow for such safety upgrades were in place.

Once the excavations began, workers wearing the appropriate safety gear (including chemical protective suits and supplied air respiratory protection) successfully removed five drums and over 80 other metal anomalies that appeared to be the remains of other drums from the site. Specialized equipment and procedures to safely excavate, handle and transport these items were used. After the buried objects were cleared, the cleanup was able to proceed as a construction excavation operation typical of most Maywood project work sites.

Groundwater Study Update



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

A study to assess the nature and extent of potential impacts to area groundwater from site-related contaminants is nearing completion. This effort, known as a Remedial Investigation, included an extensive field-sampling program to collect data on groundwater conditions. Most of that fieldwork has been completed, with limited additional sampling planned for the government-owned Maywood Interim Storage Site in June. Reports summarizing the findings of the field program have been drafted by the Corps and submitted to state and federal environmental officials for review. In addition, a document known as a Baseline Risk Assessment has also been prepared and submitted to the regulators. This report identifies and evaluates potential health and ecological effects of exposure to site contaminants, and will help determine what actions if any are needed to address groundwater contamination. Comments on this document from state and federal reviewers are expected this summer.

Contacts and More Information

The Corps welcomes your questions and comments. In addition to regular newsletters like this one, the Army Corps encourages you to use these other resources to stay informed and involved in the FUSRAP Maywood Superfund Site cleanup:

- FUSRAP Public Information Center, 75A West Pleasant Avenue, Maywood, NJ
Monday & Wednesday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. • Friday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. • Tel. 201-843-7466 • Fax 201-843-7560
After hours calls will be returned the next business day.
- Online at
www.fusrapmaywood.com
- Allen Roos, Project
Manager, at 201-226-6616
or 201-226-6632



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FUSRAP
Maywood Superfund Site



Administrative
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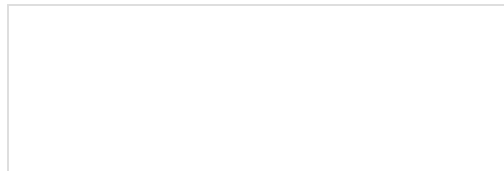
Community
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Want to know more? Visit our Public Information Center or our website at www.fusrapmaywood.com.

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