

Harp Lead
1095 Lincoln Terrace
Winter Garden, Florida
County: Orange
District: Central
Site Lead: Bureau of Waste Cleanup
Approved for Cleanup: October 28, 1991
Delisted: February 7, 1993
ERIC ID # 3863
HWC # 091

Site Description and History

The Harp Lead site, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Harp is located in a suburban neighborhood at 1095 Lincoln Terrace, Winter Garden, Orange County in Section 24, Township 22S, Range 27E at 28° 33' 54.8105" N, 81° 34' 09.2717" W. In 1985, Mr. Harp backfilled areas adjacent to his cement driveway with lead contaminated gravel/soil. The backfill material reportedly came from Mr. Harp's employer, Waste Management, Inc. (WMI). WMI was contracted by a roofing company to dispose of waste roofing gravel/soil. Unknown to anyone, the roofing gravel/soil was contaminated with lead from lead vapors vented to the roof during a lead welding process for manufacturing tin cans. Mr. Harp claims WMI gave him permission to take the gravel/soil to his home. WMI neither confirms nor denies this claim.

Threat

The site posed a significant human health threat through contact and ingestion of contaminated soil. A child at the Harp home was hospitalized after the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services (HRS) discovered very high levels of lead in his blood. Seven other neighborhood children also were found to have elevated blood lead levels. The Harp family was temporarily relocated until the contaminated soil could be removed. The remedial work was completed in 1992 and the site was delisted in February 1993.

Response Strategy and Status

On June 10, 1991, HRS notified the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation (FDER, now DEP) Central District Office that results from lead analyses conducted on soil, dust and air samples at the Harp site indicated high concentrations of lead. Between June 17th and 19th, the FDER took soil samples and secured the site to prevent public exposure by placing a heavy plastic liner over the contaminated gravel/soil and installing an 8-foot chain-link fence around the area. On June 25th, the District Office recommended that the FDER Bureau of Waste Cleanup assume responsibility for further corrective action using Water Quality Assurance Trust Fund (WQATF) monies. This request was made because the Harps did not have the financial resources or expertise to perform the remedial action.

On August 7, 1991, the Bureau's Hazardous Waste Cleanup Section requested concurrence from the Office of General Council (OGC) with the recommendation for cleanup of the contaminated gravel/soil using WQATF monies. OGC concurred with the proposal for an initial investigation and interim remedial measures to protect public health.

On September 3rd through the 5th, FDER performed soil and ground water sampling. The analytical results showed the gravel/soil lead concentrations ranged from 50 mg/kg to over 350,000 mg/kg. The volume of contaminated soil was estimated to be 215 cubic yards. A Work Plan for an Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) was developed and finalized in October 1991.

WMI performed the IRM in accordance with the DER work plan. Between October 23rd and November 7th, soil and gravel from the contaminated area was excavated to approximately two feet below land surface and disposed at an approved hazardous waste landfill in Emelle, Alabama. Approximately 350 cubic yards of soil was removed. The area was then backfilled with clean fill and re-vegetated.

In March 1992, the FDER Hazardous Waste Cleanup Section notified OGC that the interim remedial measure was complete. The Harp Lead site was delisted from the State Hazardous Waste Site List in February 1993 and the site was returned to the Central District for enforcement action.