



# COMMUNITY UPDATE INFORMATION SHEET

## CTS of Asheville, Inc. Superfund Site

### Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina

December 23, 2014

*EPA is committed to keeping the community informed about activities related to the CTS of Asheville, Inc. Superfund Site. Community Update Information Sheets will be published approximately monthly and will summarize the present status, future activities, and community involvement opportunities. Historical information has been presented in previous editions.*

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The CTS of Asheville, Inc. Superfund Site (CTS site) is located on Mills Gap Road in Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina, and also includes the areal extent of contamination. It is in an area known as Skyland, which is approximately 5 miles south of Asheville. The former facility is bordered by Mills Gap Road to the north, and residences and undeveloped land to the east, south, and west. The primary contaminant associated with the CTS Site is trichloroethene (TCE).

### **SPRINGS REMOVAL ACTION**

In June, EPA offered temporary relocation to residents of the three homes closest to the springs on the east side of the CTS site because the concentrations of TCE in the air inside their homes exceeded EPA Region 4's removal management level. EPA required CTS Corporation to conduct a removal action at the springs to reduce the concentrations of TCE in the air. The removal action began in September and was completed in October 2014.

The removal action included a combination of air sparging of the surface water; vapor extraction with air treatment by carbon canisters; covering the springs/treatment area with a 40 mil liner; and both surface water and air sampling. EPA has [A Citizen's Guide to Soil Vapor Extraction and Air Sparging](#) available on the internet that further describes those processes.

Air and water sampling indicate that the system is working to effectively reduce concentrations of TCE.



Photo of treatment system piping in springs in November 2014

## DRINKING WATER WELL SAMPLING

The 4<sup>th</sup> quarterly drinking water sampling event of 2014 was conducted in October. For homes with Culligan-installed whole house well water filtration systems, AMEC Environment & Infrastructure, Inc. (AMEC) personnel collected two samples, with an EPA contractor providing oversight. One sample was collected from water before it enters the filtration system in order to evaluate the quality of the unfiltered ground water. A second sample was collected after the water flows through the filtration system to evaluate the quality of the filtered water entering the home. For homes that have not had the filtration system installed, only one sample was collected to evaluate the quality of the unfiltered ground water. Samples were not collected from homes that have been connected to the municipal water supply or from properties where the owner requested that samples not be collected at this time.

All samples were analyzed by Pace Analytical Services, Inc. for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that are associated with the CTS Site. These VOCs include: 1,1-dichloroethene, cis-1,2-dichloroethene, trans-1,2-dichloroethene, tetrachloroethene, toluene, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, TCE, and vinyl chloride. None of these VOCs were detected in any of the samples.

The next quarterly drinking water sampling event will be during the week of January 12-16, 2015.

## AIR SAMPLING



Air samples were collected in October and November 2014. The results indicated that air concentrations of TCE have been reduced. In November 2014, EPA informed the residents of the homes that were offered temporary relocation that the air concentrations had been reduced to below removal action levels in their homes. The residents returned home prior to Thanksgiving. Air sampling is planned to be performed again in mid-January 2015. EPA will contact property owners to schedule air sampling appointments.

## NAPL AREA FOCUSED FEASIBILITY STUDY

On December 5, 2014, EPA approved with modifications AMEC's Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid (NAPL) Area Focused Feasibility Study (FFS) Work Plan. Field work sampling is planned to begin during the week of January 5<sup>th</sup>. The first sampling event includes collection of samples and gauging water levels in monitoring wells. Additional soil sampling is planned to begin during the week of January 19<sup>th</sup>. The schedule in the work plan indicates that it will take approximately 8 months to complete the NAPL Area FFS. At the conclusion of the NAPL Area FFS, EPA will notify the public of EPA's preferred cleanup technology, host a public meeting, and accept public comments on the proposed plan for cleanup.

Activity	Time to Complete
Commence implementation of the FFS Work Plan	Within 30 days of USEPA approval of the FFS Work Plan
FFS data collection field activities	Estimated 12 weeks to complete (dependent upon accumulation of LNAPL in newly installed monitoring wells for collection/testing)
Bench testing, testing of NAPL samples, and analysis of soil/groundwater samples	Estimated 8 weeks to complete
FFS Report submitted to USEPA	8 weeks after receipt of the bench testing and NAPL/analytical results

## WATER LINE CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY

If you have questions about the CTS Water Line Extension, please contact:

Mike Goodson  
828-250-4854

[mike.goodson@buncombecounty.org](mailto:mike.goodson@buncombecounty.org)

or

Mona Ellum  
828-989-8027

[mona.ellum@ellumengineering.com](mailto:mona.ellum@ellumengineering.com)

Construction of the CTS Water Line Extension is still underway. The entire project is expected to be completed by the spring of 2015. Ellum Engineering will be visiting with home owners as the project proceeds. The City will waive the normal service connection fees for homes that connect to the municipal water supply under this project. As homes are connected to the municipal water supply, Culligan will coordinate with home owners to remove the whole house well water filtration systems that they previously installed.

If you choose not to connect to the municipal water system, CTS will continue to monitor and maintain the Culligan-installed filtration systems at least until the extent of the contaminated ground water plume is determined.

## WHOLE HOUSE WATER FILTRATION SYSTEM UPDATE

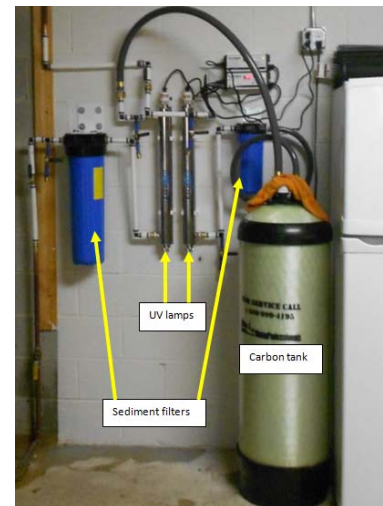
*Culligan provides routine servicing and maintenance of their system and is responsible for repairing malfunctions as a result of ordinary use and operation. If an issue arises, please call Culligan immediately:  
828-251-2420*

In 2012, CTS Corporation offered to install, monitor and maintain whole house water filtration systems for homes that are located within a one mile radius of the CTS Site that rely on well or spring water as their drinking water source **at no cost to the home owners**. The filtration design includes two sediment filters, a carbon filter tank, and an ultraviolet light, at a minimum.

Culligan began installing filtration systems in September 2012 and has

installed systems to protect the drinking water in over 100 homes. If you have not accepted the filtration system offer yet and do not want to connect to the municipal water supply system, please contact Samantha or Angela. Our contact information is included on the last page.

The standard filtration systems will filter out some metals that are attached to sediment, remove organic chemicals, and kill bacteria that may be in your water. This is being offered as a preventative/safety measure to protect your water until the Remedial Investigation is completed and a final remedy selected or you connect to the municipal water supply, whichever occurs first.



Filtration system installed by Culligan at a home within a mile radius of the CTS site

## PROPOSED FUTURE ACTIVITIES AND SCHEDULE

In July, EPA sent a list of proposed future activities and schedule to Congressmen and Senators who have constituents living near the CTS site. Due to the many unpredictable events that can happen along the way, there is considerable uncertainty in our projection of the time it will take to get various investigation and cleanup activities underway and complete those activities. Below is our best estimate at present of the projected timeline looking forward. This schedule is not fixed – it will have to be regularly updated as activities progress at the site. The schedule below has been updated to remove completed items, insert new items and revise a few of the projected dates for future activities.

<b>Projected Future Activities and Schedule</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
January 5-9, 2015	Begin field work for NAPL Area Focused Feasibility Study: monitoring well sampling
January 12-16, 2015	Quarterly private well water sampling
January 12-16, 2015	Quarterly air sampling
January 19-23, 2015	Zebra Environmental scheduled to arrive on site to perform Geoprobe work related to the NAPL Area FFS
February – April 2015	Field work continues for NAPL Area FFS
April 2015	Quarterly well water sampling
April 2015	Quarterly air sampling
Summer 2015	Begin site-wide RI/FS for media not already addressed.
July 2015	Quarterly well water sampling
Fall 2015	Complete a Focused Feasibility Study (technology evaluation) for actions to remediate NAPL contamination.
October 2015	Quarterly well water sampling
Winter 2015	Complete public participation and issue a Record of Decision (selection of remedy) for NAPL. Issue Notice Letters to begin enforcement process.
Fall 2016	Complete enforcement and begin design/construction of interim action remedy for NAPL remediation.
Winter 2016	Complete construction of the NAPL remedy (could be sooner or later depending on the technology selected). This constructed remedy may then have to be operated for months or years before completion.
Winter 2016	Finalize/approve the site-wide RI/FS, complete public participation and issue Record of Decision for site-wide remedy. Issue Notice Letters to begin enforcement process.
Summer/Fall 2017	Complete enforcement and begin design/construction of site-wide remedy.
Summer/Fall 2018	Complete construction of site-wide remedy (could be sooner depending on the technology selected). This constructed remedy may then have to be operated for numerous years before cleanup can be declared “complete” based on achieving cleanup levels in ground water.

\* Dependent upon the success of the removal action, once ambient and indoor air levels have been reduced and are within the acceptable risk range, the displaced residents will be notified that relocation is no longer necessary.



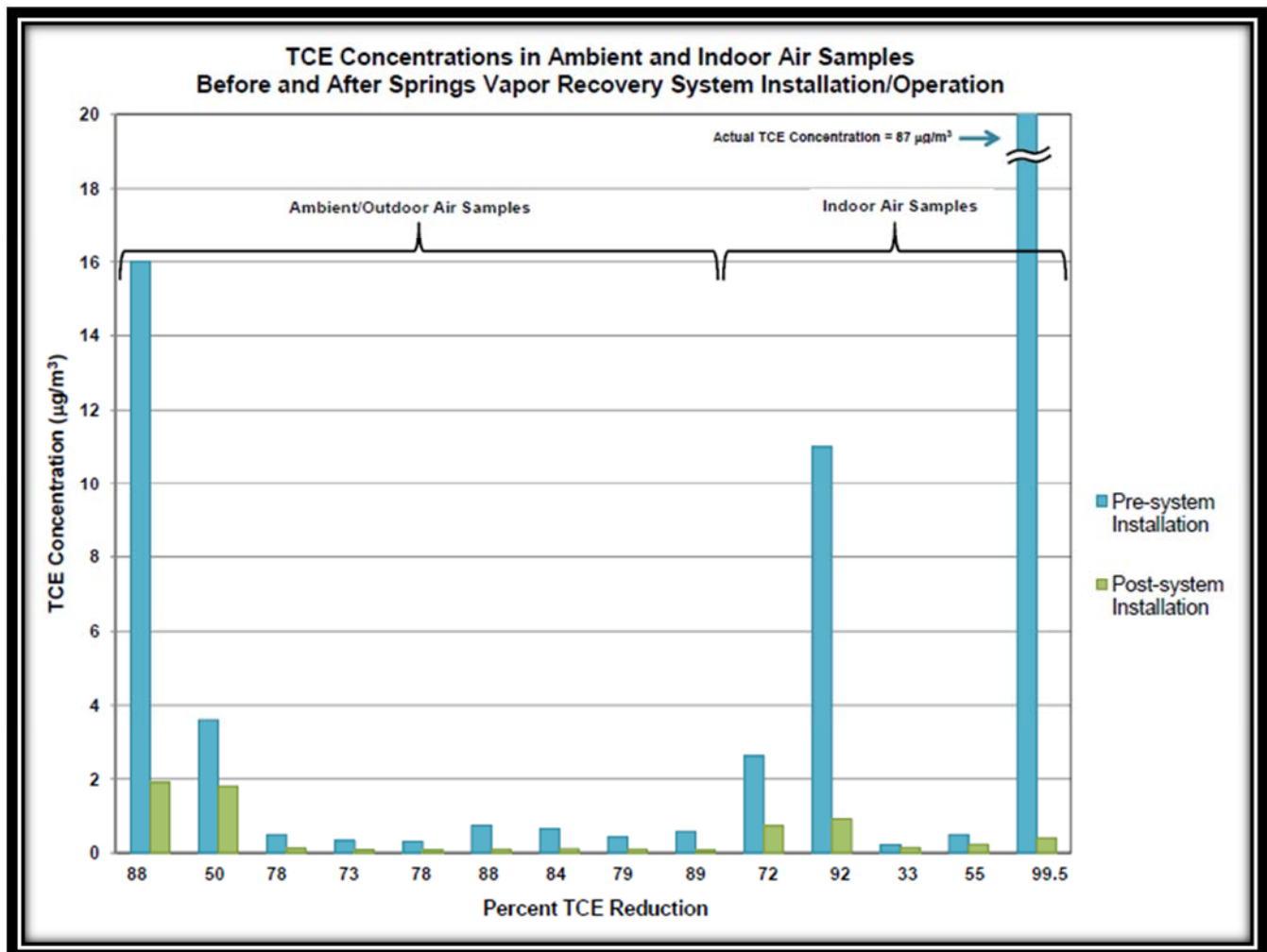
## QUESTION/TOPIC OF THE MONTH

To help better educate the community on topics related to the CTS site, we created this segment in the Community Update. If you have concerns or questions that you would like more information on, please let us know.

*Does the treatment system installed in the springs really work or is it just a cover-up?*

Yes, it really works; it is not just a cover-up. Contractors for CTS Corporation constructed a treatment system in the springs on the property adjacent to the CTS site during September – October 2014. Water and air samples were collected before the treatment system was constructed and afterwards. The data indicate that the system is working to reduce concentrations of TCE in both surface water and air.

The graph below shows the concentrations of TCE in ambient (outdoor) and indoor air from locations sampled both before the treatment system was installed and afterwards. The blue bars indicate concentrations in different locations before the system was installed. The green bars indicate concentrations for the same location after the system was installed. The numbers on the bottom row are the percent reduction of TCE between the pre-installation and post-installation samples. The data indicate between 33 and 99.5% reduction in TCE concentrations in air.



## Contact Information

### EPA

#### **Angela Miller**

Community Involvement Coordinator  
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678.575.8132 (cell)

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#### **Nile Testerman**

919.707.8339

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### NCDHHS

#### **Sandy Mort**

919.707.5912

[SANDY.MORT@DHHS.NC.GOV](mailto:SANDY.MORT@DHHS.NC.GOV)

### Buncombe County

#### **Mandy Stone**

Assistant County Manager  
828.250.5587

[MANDY.STONE@BUNCOMBECOUNTY.ORG](mailto:MANDY.STONE@BUNCOMBECOUNTY.ORG)

#### **Mike Goodson**

(Managing CTS Water Line Extension Project)

828.250.4854

[MIKE.GOODSON@BUNCOMBECOUNTY.ORG](mailto:MIKE.GOODSON@BUNCOMBECOUNTY.ORG)

### Culligan

828.251.2420

[CULLIGANWNC@BELLSOUTH.NET](mailto:CULLIGANWNC@BELLSOUTH.NET)

### Community Groups

#### **Concerned Citizens for Mills Gap Cleanup**

Glen Horecky

[GEH4@MSN.COM](mailto:GEH4@MSN.COM)

#### **TAG Recipient:**

#### **POWER Action Group**

Lee Ann Smith

[UPTHISHILL@BELLSOUTH.NET](mailto:UPTHISHILL@BELLSOUTH.NET)

## Information Repository

EPA has established an information repository for the public to review some of the documents related to the Site and the Superfund program. The local repository does not include all documents related to the Site. Additional documents may be made available by EPA upon request. The local information repository is located at the:

Pack Memorial Library  
67 Haywood Street  
Asheville, North Carolina 28801-2834

## EPA Website

EPA has a website specifically for the CTS of Asheville, Inc. Superfund Site. The website address is:

<http://www.epa.gov/region4/superfund/sites/npl/northcarolina/millsgapnc.html>

## Websites created by community members

- Clean Asheville: <http://cleanasheville.info>
- POWER Action Group: <http://poweractiongroup.org>

Previous Community Updates include historical information. Updates published from May 2012 until the present are available upon request