

EPA Set to Sample Pilsen Neighborhood for Lead

Pilsen Area Soil Site Assessment

Chicago, Illinois

March 2013

For more information

For questions, comments or for more information about the Pilsen neighborhood lead sampling project, you can contact these U.S. EPA team members:

For technical questions:

Ramon C. Mendoza

On-Scene Coordinator Superfund Division U.S. EPA Region 5 77 W. Jackson Blvd. Chicago, Illinois 60604 312-886-4314 mendoza.ramon@epa.gov

For general questions:

Heriberto León

Community Involvement Coordinator Superfund Division U.S. EPA Region 5 77 W Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604 312-886-6163 leon.heriberto@epa.gov

EPA toll-free:

800-621-8431, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., weekdays

Website:

www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/pilse nareasoils/

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will be collecting soil samples in the Pilsen neighborhood and analyzing them for lead and other metals. The sampling will help U.S. EPA determine if local industries over the years released lead and other metals into the air that settled into the neighborhood and caused unacceptable health risks to residents.

In the coming months, U.S. EPA will be contacting home owners to request permission to sample their yards. Granting access is voluntary. Property owners who sign the voluntary access agreement give permission to the federal Agency to collect soil samples on their property. U.S. EPA will sample properties at no cost to owners and will restore the ground after the sampling is completed. U.S. EPA staff will contact owners to schedule the sampling and answer any questions. Residents do not need to be present for the sampling.

The U.S. EPA will evaluate the results to determine whether lead and other metals in soil pose an unacceptable health risk to residents and whether any follow up action is required. Property owners and tenants will receive a copy of the sampling results.

The sampling will take place within the area shown in the attached map with a focus on the properties north of Cermak Road.



Taking a soil sample is a simple and routine process. This investigator is seen using a hand auger to dig a small hole in the soil that can then be placed in the bowl for laboratory analysis.

Pilsen Area Soil Site Assessment - Evaluación de Tierras en el Área de Pilsen

Chicago, Illinois March / Marzo 2013

