DO NOT MOW

Coming soon... Re-Imagining Cleveland Pilot Project

The Re-Imagining a More Sustainable Cleveland Pilot Projects are sponsored by the City of Cleveland and Neighborhood Progress, Inc.

To report problems at this site, please contact City of Cleveland, Department of Community Development at (216) 664-4059.



What We Did

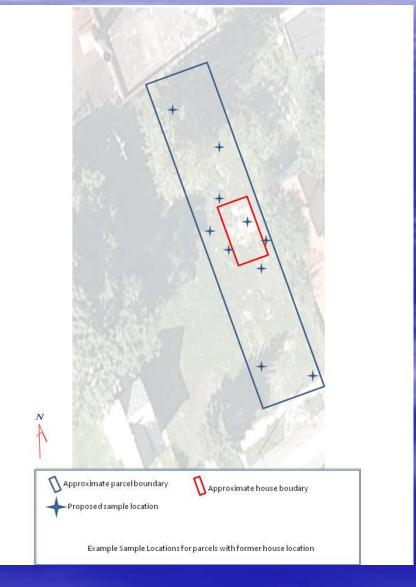
- Reviewed Proposed Projects
 - Prioritized Sites
- Visited the Sites
 - Looked for "red flags"
- Reviewed Historical Data
 - Sanborn maps
 - Aerial Photos





Sampling

- All Sites Sampled For:
 - Metals
 - Polyaromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)
 - Asbestos
 - Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
- Sites With Transformers Sampled For:
 - PCBs



What We Found

Metals

- Mostly Lead and Arsenic
- 100% of sites exceeded Ohio's Voluntary Action Program (VAP) residential use standards
- 45% sites exceeded VAP commercial/industrial use standards
- Problem Arsenic standards for residential land use are lower than background concentrations in Ohio

What We Found

- Polyaromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)
 - 75% of sites exceeded VAP Residential Landuse Standards
 - 33% of sites exceeded VAP Commercial Industrial Landuse Standards

No Asbestos, PCBs, or VOCs

Food For Thought

- What risk scenario is appropriate for urban gardening? Residential? Commercial Industrial? Something in between?
- Should we use different risk assumptions for neighborhood community gardens vs market gardens? Probably.
- What if naturally occurring background concentrations of metals are higher than risk based standards?
- What about soil amendments? There are ways to amend the soil to make contaminants less bio-available.
- Are raised beds the answer? Where's that soil coming from? Should the soil be tested before it's used?