CDD/EPNR

10005 E. Osborn Rd.
Two Waters Bldg. B–3rd Floor
Scottsdale, AZ 85256

WE ARE ON THE WEB

www.saltriverenvironmental.org

The Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Division (EPNR) is a Division of the Community Development Department (CDD). This Division was established to enhance the quality of life within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community by protecting and preserving the land, ecosystems, wildlife, history, and natural resources of the Community.

"PROTECT, RESPECT AND CARE FOR THE EARTH"

EPNR HOTLINE 480-362-7500

Do you have any environmental questions?

CDD/EPNR strives to provide the Community with the most important topics to provide them knowledge about environmental health and safety. We hope that this newsletter serves to be an educational guide to all the readers. CDD/EPNR would like to get your feedback and comments about this new issue in order to help us better serve the Community with information that is most useful to them. If there are any topics of environmental awareness and health that you would like discussed in the next issue, please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate the information.

Feel free to e-mail, or write us to ask questions and we will do our best to address them .

Please send your questions or comments to:

lily.bermejo@srpmic-nsn.gov
or
SRPMIC-CDD/EPNR
c/o Lily Bermejo
10005 E. Osborn Rd.
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Contact me at 480-362-2631

2013

Enviro-Mindz

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

Volume 1, Issue 2

What type of properties are considered Brownfield sites?

The United States Environmental Protection Agency defines a Brownfield site as a real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

A Brownfield site could be any abandoned property that may have contamination with the potential for redevelopment. Some examples of sites that could be considered a potential Brownfield site are: Old buildings or factories, abandoned gas stations, abandoned warehouses, homes used as meth labs, landfills, illegal dumping sites or areas of buried waste, and mined lands.

Another way to determine whether a site could be considered a Brownfield site would be if there was some type of hazardous material used or dumped in the land, including the burial of drums.

An old building built prior to the 70's could also be a Brownfield site from the use of asbestos and/or lead paint in the building materials.

Below is a picture of an abandoned building with broken tile, which may contain asbestos and the walls may contain lead paint. ↓

A site with illegal dumping of drums containing hazardous waste could also be a Brownfield. ↓

YOU CAN HELP US FIND BROWNFIELD SITES TO CLEAN UP

Inside this issue:

Conserve the Earth!

EPA's Brownfield funding

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has various funding sources for Brownfields. It provides competitive funding for Assessment and Clean Up grants, and for Targeted Brownfields Assessments. SRPMIC has obtained and Assessment and Clean Up grant in the past and is currently assessing other sites within the Community that may qualify for Brownfields funding.

Community members can help us locate sites that may qualify for funding. SRPMIC has a Brownfields Information and Assessment Request Form which can be found online at http://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/epnr/brownfields_request.asp or can be requested and submitted in person at our offices in the Community Development Department (Two Waters Complex, Third Floor-Building B).

Learning about Lead

Lead is a naturally occurring element found in small amounts in the earth's crust. It has many beneficial uses because of its physical properties. It has been used in products like paint, ceramics, pipes, solders, gasoline, batteries and cosmetics. Unfortunately, lead can be toxic to humans and animals.

Lead can be found in the air, the soil, the water and even in our homes. Exposure can be from past use of leaded gasoline and past use of lead-based paint in the homes (pre-1980's). Lead can also be emitted from industrial sources and contaminated sites, such as old lead smelters.

The most common sources of lead exposure today are lead based paint in the older homes, household dust, contaminated soil or drinking water, lead crystal, and lead-glazed pottery.

Health risks of Lead

High exposure to lead can cause disorders such as lack of muscular coordination, convulsions and coma. Lower lead exposure can affect children's mental development and behavior. Lead can affect almost every organ and system in your body. The most risk being found in children six years old or younger. Lead can cause children to have permanent damage to the brain and nervous system, thus causing hyperactivity, learning problems, hearing problems and anemia.

Pregnant women also are at risk, lead can accumulate in their bodies and then gets stored in the bones along with calcium. The problem occurs when the maternal calcium is used to form the bones of the baby and the lead is released. It can cause a miscarriage or reduce the growth of the baby and induce a premature birth.

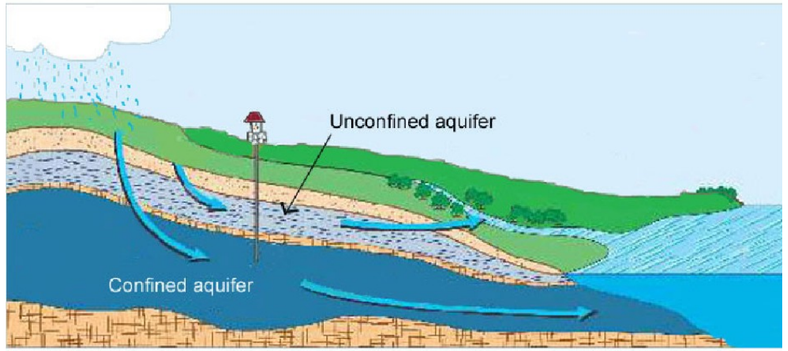
How can I lower my chances of being exposed to Lead?

Lead can affect any adult, causing nervous system effects, memory and concentration problems, blood pressure increase, kidney function decrease and reproductive problems for both men and women. Now that we know what exposure to lead is capable of doing to our health, how can we lower our chance of exposure? Some of the steps to lower your exposure in the home are the following:

1. Make sure to inspect and maintain all painted surfaces and prevent paint deterioration (Keeping the paint intact prevents exposure for pre-1980 homes).
2. Fix any water damage which may cause deterioration of the paint.
3. Keep your home clean and dust-free (try to use a wet cleaning or wiping method for dust).
4. Clean around painted areas where more dust is generated, such as doors, windows, drawers. Wipe those areas with a wet rag and remove any paint chips or dust.
5. Wash your kids toys often, remove their shoes and wipe their hands after playing outdoors.

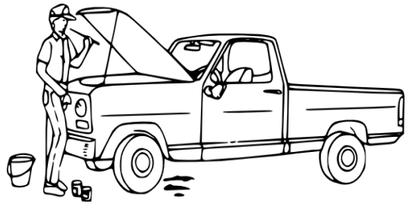
WHEN IT RAINS, IT POURS!

When it rains water falls to the Earth as part of the water cycle. Some of this water pours over the land and into ditches that can eventually lead to the Salt River. Some of this water soaks into the ground and ends up in the fresh water supply below the land surface called an aquifer. Water from aquifers beneath SRPMIC gets pumped from underground through wells, and into homes within the Community to be used for such things as drinking, bathing, and washing clothes. Therefore, it is important to protect the groundwater from pollution.



Here are a few ways you can help keep the aquifer clean:

1. **Do not** change car oil on the grass or dirt.
2. Maintain septic systems frequently.
3. Minimize the use of pesticides and fertilizers in the yard.
4. **Do not** litter, and make sure to dispose of trash properly.



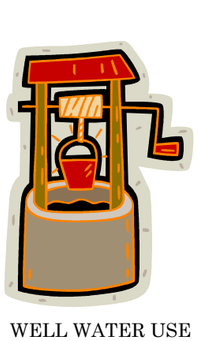
PLACE OIL ON PAN OR CONTAINERS. RECYCLE YOUR OIL & FILTERS IN AN APPROPRIATE FACILITY.

CLEAN YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM

NO PESTICIDES

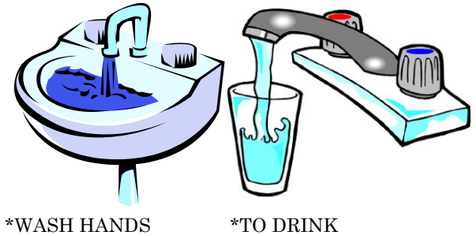
DISPOSE OF TRASH ON BIN & RECYCLE

PROTECT YOUR WATER!



WELL WATER USE

*TO SHOWER



*WASH HANDS *TO DRINK