

FINAL Meeting Summary
Folcroft Landfill and Annex Site Public Meeting
April 11, 2019
Delaware County Emergency Services Center
Sharon Hill, PA

Sponsored by:
US Environmental Protection Agency

The Folcroft Landfill Public meeting began promptly at 6:00 pm on Thursday evening April 11, 2019. There were approximately 40 people in attendance including government agency staff from US Environmental Protection Agency [US EPA], US Fish and Wildlife Service [USFWS], and the PA Department of Environmental Protection [PA DEP].

Introductions

The meeting began with introductions of: the US EPA site team responsible for all activities associated with the Remedial Investigation of the Folcroft Landfill; US Fish and Wildlife [US FWS] staff from the Heinz National Wildlife Refuge which is a partner agency working with EPA because the Folcroft Landfill lies within the perimeter of Refuge; a representative of the PA DEP which is also a partner agency working with EPA on the Folcroft Landfill. Additionally, representatives of the Lower Darby Creek Area [LDCA] Superfund Site Community Advisory Group [ELDCA CAG] and the LDCA Superfund Site Technical Assistance Grant [TAG] recipient were recognized and introduced because of the role they play in public engagement activities associated with the LDCA Superfund Site [the Folcroft Landfill is a part of the LDCA Superfund site].

The facilitator briefly reviewed the purpose of this meeting; reviewed the meeting agenda; reviewed the proposed meeting groundrules; and asked all participants if they had any questions or suggested changes to the agenda. She asked all participants if they could agree to abide by the ground rules — there were no objections to the proposed groundrules.

Overview of the Superfund Process and Background on the Folcroft Landfill

Next, Josh Barber, EPA's Remedial Project Manager for the LDCA Superfund Site, presented an overview of the Superfund process, and presented a brief the history of the Folcroft Landfill. [Please note that Josh's entire presentation is available on EPA's website: www.epa.gov/superfund/lowerdarby. Additionally, handouts that illustrate the Superfund process and explain what happens at each step in the process are also available online at EPA's website.

Overview of the Folcroft Remedial Investigation Findings

Josh presented an overview of what a Remedial Investigation Report [RI] is and the key findings of this recently completed report. He began by pointing out that the completion of the RI report represents a major milestone in the Superfund process for the Folcroft Landfill. Josh noted that a group of Responsible Parties conducted the work for the RI, with US EPA and PA DEP oversight.

The RI report for Folcroft discusses the findings of the investigation, the extent of contamination, and potential human health and ecological risks.

Josh reviewed some of the key questions that the RI report is designed to address including:

- Evaluating the nature and extent of contamination on the Site;
- Evaluating whether contamination had migrated offsite; and
- Determining if contamination from the Site posed onsite threats to public health and/or the environment

Next Josh reviewed the key elements of the RI data collection efforts including:

- Collection of soil boring and soil samples from throughout the landfill;
- Collection of water seeping out of the sides of the landfill banks at low-tide;
- Testing for landfill gases and vapors, especially at the boundary closest to Folcroft neighborhood; and
- Groundwater testing and expansion of investigation areas to determine the full extent of contamination outside the landfill boundary.

Josh presented several maps to show where samples were collected to determine what contamination currently exists within the perimeter of the landfill and the concentrations at which they are present as well as where contaminants might be migrating away from the landfill site itself.

Josh presented several examples of contaminants found at the Folcroft Landfill and how far these contaminants have migrated from the site — this helps determine the “extent of contamination.”

Next Josh explained what EPA does with all the data collected during the investigation, and how this data is used to predict potential human health impacts. The analysis of this data becomes what is known as a “risk assessment.” EPA looks at potential “exposure” pathways to determine potential human health effects.

For the Folcroft Landfill site, the RI Report includes a human health risk assessment and an ecological risk assessment which focuses on the landfill and contaminated groundwater. In addition, an aquatic risk assessment is being conducted by EPA to evaluate contaminants in surface water, sediment, fish tissue and turtle tissue both near the Folcroft Landfill as well as around the larger LDCA Site. These risk assessments will ensure that the Agency is looking at potential impacts on humans, plants, animals, fish, etc.

Next steps in the Superfund process at Folcroft

Josh briefly reviewed some of the next steps that will occur at the Folcroft Landfill site.

- As mentioned earlier, EPA is responsible for the evaluation of potential risks in the wetlands and creeks that are potentially impacted by the Folcroft Landfill. That risk evaluation is expected to be complete sometime in 2019.
- Additionally, the Responsible Parties who conducted the RI [with EPA and PADEP oversight] have already begun work on a Feasibility Study [FS] which is the next step in the Superfund Process. The FS will evaluate different options to address the landfill and groundwater.
- The FS will continue into 2020.

Some of the conclusions or key findings of the RI include:

- Although anywhere between 2 to 10 feet of soil were placed on the landfill as part of its closure in 1974, currently, about 30% of the landfill surface has 1 foot clean soil or more.
- There are no unacceptable human health risks under current use scenarios. There are potential risks that could be created in the future if a building were constructed over the contaminated groundwater. This scenario is very unlikely and can be prohibited as part of the future cleanup.
- There are several contaminants in groundwater outside of the landfill boundary that are above Federal or Pennsylvania drinking water standards.
- There are ecological risks from potential exposure to soil that will need to be addressed.

Questions and Discussion

Following Josh's presentation on the findings of the RI, he answered questions from participants. Some of those questions included:

- Have [Federal] budget restrictions affected EPA's work and can you do what needs to be done at this site with the budget/funds currently available to you?
- Can Darby Creek Valley Association [DCVA] — the Technical Assistance Grant [TAG] grant recipient for the LDCA Superfund Site - please post the products or documents that they produce to illustrate what they are using the TAG funds to produce?
- Can EPA update its maps related to where the Folcroft Landfill is exactly? [Some residents who were present at this meeting thought that EPA's maps might have been a bit outdated.]
- How do component parts of the RI - parts that are not done at the same time — get put together or how do they get integrated properly so that all the data from one component of the RI is available to be used in other parts of the RI ? [eg, what happens if one component of the RI needs data from another component of the RI - but those components are not conducted at the same time?
- Has EPA attempted to factor historical use patterns [how people used the areas in and around the Folcroft landfill] into its analysis of the Folcroft RI - similar to what EPA did for the RI at the Clearview Landfill?
- Can EPA provide people that are interested with a list of the known "responsible parties" associated with the Folcroft Landfill?
- Are there any studies currently underway related to clustering of diseases for communities or residents located near the Folcroft Landfill?
- How would EPA ensure that residents and others are not impacted by contaminants during the cleanup?

Folcroft Landfill Lower Darby Creek Area Superfund Site

Key Contacts and Resources

EPA Site Team

Joshua Barber
Remedial Project Manager
Phone: 215-814-3393
Email: Barber.joshua@epa.gov

Larry Brown
Community Involvement Coordinator
Phone: 215-814-5527
Email: Brown.larry@epa.gov

Gina Soscia
Community Involvement Coordinator
Phone: 215-814-5538
Email: Soscia.gina@epa.gov

A Community Guide to EPA's Superfund Program

<http://semspub.epa.gov/src/document/HQ/175197>

EPA Technical Assistance Grantee

Darby Creek Valley Association (DCVA) - <http://dcva.org/>

Learn more about EPA Technical Assistance Grants: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/technical-assistance-grant-tag-program>

EPA Technical Assistance Services for Communities Program (TASC)

Learn more about the TASC Program: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/technical-assistance-services-communities-tasc-program>

Eastwick Lower Darby Creek Area Community Advisory Group (ELDCA CAG)

Meetings are held quarterly on the third Wednesday of the month.

<http://www.eldcacag.org/>

John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum

Phone: 215-365-3118

Email: johnheinznr@fws.gov

FINAL AGENDA

April 11, 2019
US EPA Folcroft Landfill Public Meeting
Delaware County Emergency Services Training Center
1600 Calcon Hook Rd
Sharon Hil, PA

6:00 pm INTRODUCTIONS

- Purpose of this meeting and review of agenda
- Introduction of EPA Site Team
- Introduction of FWS Team
- Other parties associated with this site [PA DEP, ELDCA CAG, LDCA TAG]

6:15 pm OVERVIEW OF SUPERFUND PROCESS and BACKGROUND ON FOLCROFT

- Superfund process overview
- EPA Community involvement requirements and resources
- LDCA Superfund site overview
- Folcroft Landfill and Annex history and schedule
- Questions

6:30 pm FOLCROFT REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION FINDINGS

- What are the key questions the Folcroft RI was designed to answer
- What are the answers to these key questions
- Questions on RI results

7:00 pm Q&A FROM THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE FOLCROFT LANDFILL

7:25 pm CLOSING REMARKS

- What happens next for the Folcroft Landfill

7:30 pm ADJOURN

FOLCROFT PUBLIC MEETING #1 GROUND RULES

Meeting Purpose:

- To present the Superfund Process, including public outreach and involvement
- To discuss the history of the Folcroft Landfill and Annex leading up to the Remedial Investigation
- To present results of the Folcroft Remedial Investigation
- To discuss questions from the public regarding the Folcroft Landfill and next steps

Meeting format and process:

- We want everyone that wants to talk to have a chance to do so — this means that everyone may be asked to limit their remarks - I will serve as the time-keeper in helping us all do that.
- All points of view are welcome, and we ask that all points of view be respected.
- Any disagreements that may arise will be treated as “issues” to be discussed — not as battles to be fought and won.
- No personal attacks or disruptions will be allowed — rather - I will keep participants focused on the topics we are here to discuss.
- If, at any time during the meeting, you feel I am moving the meeting too fast or too slow — please let me know - I will do what I can to adjust the discussion meet the group’s needs.
- The key points of the meeting will be recorded by Gina - who is serving as the meeting recorder for tonight’s meeting — she and I will work together to prepare a meeting summary which will be sent to those in attendance and put on EPA’s website.