



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
St. Louis District

St. Louis Sites Fact Sheet

RIGHT OF ENTRY



Cleanup activities at the St. Louis Sites are part of a nationwide U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) environmental program known as the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP).

These sites contain soils contaminated with uranium, thorium and radium as a result of activities associated with the Manhattan Engineer District/Atomic Energy Commission (MED/AEC) during the nation's early atomic program in the 1940s and 1950s.

Surface water (caused by rain or snow) and flooding events transported contaminated material from the St. Louis Airport Site (SLAPS), Latty Avenue Properties and haul roads into Coldwater Creek (CWC). Once contamination reached CWC, creek flow moved contaminated material downstream.

USACE first eliminated the sources of contamination at SLAPS and Latty. USACE continues to investigate and sample the CWC corridor (banks and sediment) and the adjacent properties within the creek's 10-year floodplain.

To learn more about FUSRAP, contact the FUSRAP Area Office at 314-260-3905 or, via email, at STLFUSRAP@usace.army.mil.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) and property owners have been successful partners in the cleanup of radiological contamination.

FUSRAP supports the St. Louis community through radioactive-soil remediation projects that protect human health and the environment. One critical activity is sampling the soil of properties within the 10-year floodplain of Coldwater Creek as well as the soil and sediment within the Coldwater Creek corridor to determine the location of radioactive contamination.

To enter onto private property, USACE needs the property owner's permission in writing. Testing cannot begin until the property owner signs a right of entry (ROE) and returns it to USACE. Properties along Coldwater Creek comprise an integrated system; the condition of one property may potentially impact the surrounding adjacent properties. From a community perspective, it is good to know the condition of all contiguous/adjacent properties.

All expenses are borne by the U.S. government.

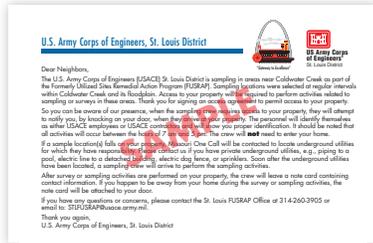
WHAT IS A RIGHT OF ENTRY?

An ROE gives permission for USACE to be on private property to take soil samples, scan for radioactive contamination and/or access other properties that require investigation. It also grants permission for cleaning up radiological contamination in soil. The terms of an ROE cannot be easily changed because they are set by government regulations.

WHEN WILL USACE SEEK A RIGHT OF ENTRY? HOW LONG DOES IT LAST?

Because of scheduling constraints and weather, the exact dates and times when sampling will occur cannot be set very far in advance of when the sampling will take place. Property owners will typically receive requests for an ROE several months in advance of the visit. USACE can receive a signed ROE (which does not have to be notarized) via U.S. mail or email.

Properties with signed ROEs are generally tested according to the pace of work required as the crews move downstream. Although FUSRAP activities at residential properties are usually measured in days, weeks or months, a typical ROE lasts for two years. USACE sometimes requests an extension if sampling, remediation and restoration cannot be accomplished during that period for reasons such as project scope or scheduling, weather or access.



Postcard Sent to Residents



Information Tag Left for Residents

After a right of entry is signed, USACE will schedule a visit. Residential property owners will receive a postcard before the visit. When finished, the crew will leave a tag with the date and time of the visit on the front door.

WILL I BE NOTIFIED THAT USACE IS COMING? WHAT IF I'M NOT HOME?

At least two weeks before a crew arrives, property owners will receive a postcard letting them know of the upcoming visit. It is not possible to provide an exact date and time of the upcoming visit. When the crew arrives, they will knock on the owner's door to let them know the crew is there. If no one is home or if the owners are busy, the crew will proceed with their work. When finished, they will leave a tag on the door to let property owners know they were there. A phone number to call with questions or concerns is on the tag.

WHAT WORK WILL BE DONE ON MY LAND?

Work on private land will consist of collecting soil samples, performing a surface scan, walking through the property to access the Coldwater Creek corridor or a combination of these activities. The crew will mark the sampling area with small flags (if soil samples are needed). USACE will contact Missouri One Call to locate underground utilities.

At the FUSRAP lab, scientists will analyze the soil samples. FUSRAP scientists will evaluate data from the analysis of the soil samples (if taken) and soil scanning (if required). USACE will send a letter to the landowner to report what is found.

If levels of contamination are at or above actionable levels, USACE will develop a plan on how to address it, talk to the owner about the plan and clean it up. Cleanup will be fully described first. After remediation, the crew will restore the area to its previous condition.

All FUSRAP sampling, testing, remediating (if needed) and restoring a property will be at the expense of the U.S. government.

WHAT IF I ELECT NOT TO SIGN A RIGHT OF ENTRY?

Signing the ROE enables USACE to proceed in a methodical fashion in fulfilling its mission to protect human health and the environment. The requirements for USACE to sample a property and to remediate contaminated soils do not go away if a property owner elects not to sign an ROE; the requirements simply get delayed.

Delays in sampling and remediation could have several impacts to the program and surrounding neighbors. Returning to sample and remediate out of sequence will result in higher costs to the taxpayer. Your neighbors, who may have already gone through the disruption of sampling and remediation, will once again be subject to those disruptions.

Contaminated soils tend to cross property lines, which means that sampling as well as possible remediation and restoration of neighboring properties could be delayed until all contiguous properties are accessible.

If you have special considerations before signing an ROE, such as dogs, health issues, etc., contact the FUSRAP realty specialist at 314-331-8167 to discuss those concerns.



The FUSRAP team will collect soil samples from the surface to 6 feet or deeper. They collect samples manually most of the time but sometimes must use a drill rig for deeper samples.