



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

St. Louis Sites Fact Sheet

HOW DOES USACE DECIDE WHERE TO SAMPLE?



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

USACE uses scientific knowledge and skilled investigators to identify places at and near these sites that may need cleanup. The work requires deliberate sample site selection and then precise laboratory analysis in order to prioritize cleanup actions.

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

To ensure complete sample coverage of the Coldwater Creek corridor, scientists establish sampling locations and depths based on a variety of physical and historical factors. Described below are examples of those factors.

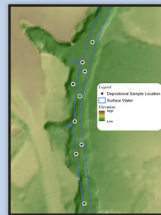
Systematic grid samples:

Researchers place these sample locations on an evenly spaced grid in order to provide consistent coverage across a sampling area.



Depositional area samples:

These sampling locations are areas where sediment from previous years may have accumulated and then become covered by additional sediment. Sediment can settle in portions of a stream where the water slows down, such as along the inside of a stream bend or where slope changes or obstructions slow water flow.



Samples near tributary junctions:

Water entering a stream from a tributary often slows down (or backs up) causing deposition as described above.



Samples beneath bridges:

Bridge construction often involves covering streambank soil beneath the bridge with materials like concrete or rock. Sampling soil beneath such materials ensures that we adequately assess this covered soil.



Samples from adjacent low-lying areas:

Low-lying areas adjacent to a stream often receive slow-moving or standing water, resulting in sediment accumulation. These areas may also be more prone to periodic flooding.

