



SHINE Program
Superfund Health Investigation & Education
Taylor Lumber & Treating, Inc. Public Health Assessment
Summary Fact Sheet- April 2003

The Oregon SHINE Program evaluated the public health significance of past contamination from wood treating chemicals used in lumber treating and product processes at the former Taylor Lumber and Treating facility in Sheridan, Oregon. The people that may have received the most exposure to the contaminants are workers on the site.

SHINE concluded that exposure to contaminants from past use of the site poses no apparent public health hazard. This is because there is limited access to the property due to the presence of a fence and the industrial nature of the site.

Any exposure to site contaminants are likely to occur from contact with the soil, especially through eating or having skin contact with it. Children playing in ditches and recreational users of the South Yamhill River may come into contact with river and ditch sediments. However, soil exposure doses for adults and children are lower than health guidelines and exposure would not be likely to cause adverse health effects. SHINE recommends that access to the site be controlled and a fence built to enclose the soil storage area and ditch sediment along Rock Creek Road.

A copy of the Public Health Assessment (PHA) can be accessed at www.healthoregon.org/superfund and the Sheridan Public Library. Comments on the PHA are requested and are due by July 17th, 2003; please see the website for where to direct comments. Program staff will be available to answer questions about the health assessment and to learn about community concerns at a public meeting on Tuesday, May 20th at Sheridan City Hall, 120 SW Mill Street from 6-8 PM. The meeting format will be informal and there will be a chance to talk with staff about health concerns linked to the site.

What chemicals were released at the former wood treating facility?

- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
- Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs)
- Pentachlorophenol (PCP)
- Metals
- Dioxins
- Furans
- Arsenic
- Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

What does the PHA say about how I can protect my family from contaminants at the Taylor Lumber & Treating site?

- The Taylor Lumber and Treating (TLT) site presents no apparent public health hazard
- The fence along Rock Creek Road should enclose the ditch sediment, or the sediment should be removed and replaced with clean fill to reduce exposure
- A fence should enclose the TLT contaminated soil storage area and warn people with posted signs
- Access to the TLT site should be controlled
- A separate investigation should be conducted to address the concerns of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde about elevated cancer rates

For more information, please call staff from the SHINE Program:

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www.healthoregon.org/superfund