



Environmental
Stewardship
Concepts

Stewardship News

July 2010

To Our Clients and Friends,

Having survived a record-setting June (temperature wise, that is), we are sweating our way through July! Read on for July project updates and upcoming events at ESC and around the country.

ESC Updates

The office has moved! We can be reached at the following mailing address:

1006 Pump Road Suite # 200

Richmond, VA 23238

Our phone number remains (804) 741-2922.

Also, we are now designated as Environmental Stewardship Concepts, LLC.

ESC recently completed a short term contract to provide expert opinion on the effects of sinking the HMAS Adelaide off the coast of Australia to serve as an artificial reef. The ship contains an array of chemicals toxic to both aquatic and human life, including copper, PCBs, zinc, and lead that may poison the very organisms for which it is meant to provide a habitat.

Various EPA regulatory offices around the country are in the process of finalizing decisions of Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) applications from non-profits seeking to monitor remediation efforts at hazardous waste sites. The TAG recipients will then have the option of contracting an outside technical assistance firm, such as ESC.

Staff News

ESC's Research Assistant, Martha Ellen Wingfield, will be leaving at the end of July to begin preparations for her new position as Collegiate School's EE Ford Fellow, through which she will be teaching 9th Grade Chemistry.

Our former Research Scientist, Emily Russell, will be moving to New Orleans to begin Tulane University Law School in August. We wish her all the best and cannot wait to have a talented new lawyer in the environmental arena!

Client Updates

Spring Valley

Peter attended the Restoration Advisory Board Meeting on July 13th in Washington, DC. The cleanup continues to present challenges for all involved, especially with the continued discovery of chemical weapons material in residential neighborhoods. Currently, the discovery process is on hold until the Army Corps can assure the safety of workers and neighborhood residents in the event that more arsenic trichloride is found.

Badger Army Ammunition Plant

The levels of DNT in groundwater are increasing and are currently at an all time high. Due to the elevated levels of this carcinogenic explosive, Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger is pressing the Army to act quickly to remediate this problem that greatly exceeds state and federal drinking water standards.

Recent Developments

Remember, you can always follow current events related to cleanups, public health, and the environment on our Recent Developments page, located on the ESC website.

July 13, 2010

In the still rippling wake of the December 2008 Tennessee Valley Authority coal ash spill, the Army Corps of Engineers is proposing to use the toxic ash in fixing Mississippi River levees. While the coal ash is not regulated as a hazardous waste, its constituents, including many heavy metals, are hazardous to human health. [Click here to read the article](#)

July 12, 2010

A Kentucky newspaper article looked at a recently released study on emerging contaminants in the Ohio River and quotes Peter deFur's scientific and professional opinion. [Click here to read the article](#)

June 10, 2010

The EPA is banning endosulfan, one of the last organochlorine pesticides left in the United States. Like DDT, endosulfan accumulates in the environment and in the bodies of people and wildlife, and is transported around the world to remote places. EPA officials on Wednesday announced that "pesticide products containing endosulfan do not meet the standard for registration" and pose "unacceptable risks" to farm workers and wildlife. The decision reverses one made in 2002 that triggered a lawsuit from farm labor unions and environmental activists. To read the full article, [click here](#)

June 4, 2010

ESC provides consultation in problem solving, networking, leadership, and technical expertise to organizations, government agencies, and businesses on environmental issues.

In an interesting turn of events, one of the most toxic sites in Superfund history is providing scientists the opportunity to figure out anomalies in health effects from exposure to a toxic constituent of asbestos. To read the full article, [click here](#)

June 3, 2010

St. Louis Michigan is home to Pine River where the annual St. Louis Free Fishing Derby is set for June 12 where record attendance at the event may qualify it for the Guinness Book of World Records. ESC serves as the Technical Advisor to the Pine River Citizens Task Force for the cleanup of the Velsicol Superfund site in Gratiot County, Michigan along the Pine River. To read the article in the Morning Sun, [click here](#)

Thank you for your continued support, and as always, feel free to contact the ESC office with any questions or concerns.

**Until next time,
The ESC Team**

**Peter deFur, President
Laura Williams, Research Scientist
Martha Ellen Wingfield, Research Assistant
Laura Barry, Office Manager
Nathan Pinsker, Intern**

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