

DO NOT MOW

Coming soon...

Re-Imagining Cleveland Pilot Project

The Re-Imagining a More Sustainable Cleveland Pilot Projects are sponsored by the City of Cleveland and Neighborhood Progress, Inc.

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CITY OF CLEVELAND
Mayor Frank G. Jackson

What We Did

- Reviewed Proposed Projects
 - Prioritized Sites
- Visited the Sites
 - Looked for “red flags”
- Reviewed Historical Data
 - Sanborn maps
 - Aerial Photos



Sampling

- All Sites Sampled For:
 - Metals
 - Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)
 - Asbestos
 - Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
- Sites With Transformers Sampled For:
 - PCBs



What We Found

- Metals

- Mostly Lead and Arsenic
- 100% of sites exceeded Ohio's Voluntary Action Program (VAP) residential use standards
- 45% sites exceeded VAP commercial/industrial use standards
- **Problem** – Arsenic standards for residential land use are lower than background concentrations in Ohio

What We Found

- Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)
 - 75% of sites exceeded VAP Residential Landuse Standards
 - 33% of sites exceeded VAP Commercial Industrial Landuse Standards
- No Asbestos, PCBs, or VOCs

Food For Thought

- What risk scenario is appropriate for urban gardening? Residential? Commercial Industrial? Something in between?
- Should we use different risk assumptions for neighborhood community gardens vs market gardens? Probably.
- What if naturally occurring background concentrations of metals are higher than risk based standards?
- What about soil amendments? There are ways to amend the soil to make contaminants less bio-available.
- Are raised beds the answer? Where's that soil coming from? Should there be standards for raised bed construction? Should the soil be tested before it's used?