



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Buffalo District

News Release

FORMERLY UTILIZED SITES REMEDIAL ACTION PROGRAM

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RATTLESNAKE CREEK SAMPLING BEGINNING

TONAWANDA -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District, will begin collecting samples from Rattlesnake Creek and Two-Mile Creek downstream to the Niagara River Monday, July 31. The investigation, which is being performed under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) will continue for approximately six weeks.

Workers will be using a hand auger to take surface samples zero to six inches deep and subsurface samples zero to three feet deep.

Rattlesnake Creek, directly adjacent to the Ashland 2 Site, is an intermittent creek that does not have water flowing in it the majority of the time. While performing routine verification sampling at the FUSRAP Ashland 2 Site, the Corps discovered levels of uranium in the creek without the corresponding levels of Thorium and Radium typically present in FUSRAP material. The material identified in the creek poses no health risks to nearby residents who do not come in prolonged direct contact with the impacted sub-surface soils. Even under conservative future land-use scenarios where the impacted area is used more actively, potential health risks are within regulatory levels.

The Corps will hold an information session to present the results of the investigation and answer questions when the investigation is complete.



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