



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Buffalo District

FUSRAP

Fact Sheet

January 2001

Rattlesnake Creek • Tonawanda, New York

The Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) was initiated by the Atomic Energy Commission in 1974 to identify and cleanup contaminated sites used in the early years of the nation's atomic energy program. Management of the program was transferred to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from the U.S. Department of Energy in October 1997.

Description

Rattlesnake Creek, a small tributary which is dry most of the year, is adjacent to the Ashland 2 Site. During the remediation of the Ashland 2 site, areas of Rattlesnake Creek were sampled and determined to have elevated uranium concentrations at some locations. However, the resultant risk and dose were still in an acceptable range based on standards developed by the Nuclear

Regulatory Commission for protection of human health and the environment. Because of our high priority on protection of human health and the environment, additional sampling was performed in July and August 2000 along the creek all the way to its outlet in the Niagara River. The purpose of this sampling was to further identify any potential for contamination.



Preliminary and Current Report Findings

Based on our sampling to date, we have confirmed the Rattlesnake Creek area is currently protective of human health and the environment. However, slightly elevated radionuclide levels were detected in a low-lying area adjacent to the Ashland 2 Site.

The results of sampling from July and August 2000 have shown that the area of Two Mile Creek, downstream of Rattlesnake Creek is safe for active use and requires no further investigation or action. In the area immediately adjacent to Ashland 2, sample points continue to reveal slightly elevated levels of uranium and thorium. Further investigation and focused sampling will be performed in this area. Areas which exceed cleanup levels will be remediated.

Future Plans

Additional sampling will be performed this spring in the areas immediately adjacent to the Ashland 2 Site. The results of this additional sampling will be evaluated and a recommendation on any necessary further action will be made this fall. These results will be shared at the next public information session.

Further, we will continue to work with the local elected officials and share information with the public as our investigation progresses.

For More Information

For more information, please call the FUSRAP toll-free public access line. Your call will be returned promptly.

Toll-free Telephone Number: 1-800-833-6390

FUSRAP also has a home page on the Internet.

Home Page Address: <http://www.lrb.usace.army.mil/fusrap>

You may e-mail us at: **fusrap@usace.army.mil**

You may also contact us by writing to:

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