

# Spotlight On Safety

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## Former Pesticide Waste Pits Site

### *Site Location & History*

The Former Pesticide Waste Pits Site comprises 3.25 acres within the UC Riverside Citrus Research Center and Agricultural Experiment Station. During the 1950s and 1960s, the Site was used for the disposal of pesticide and herbicide waste containers from research operations in laboratories, greenhouses, and in small field plots. Investigation and remediation activities were conducted under Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) oversight between 1988 and 2002, and groundwater monitoring was conducted from 1991 until 2016.

The Site was cleaned up so that remaining on-Site soil, including the backfilled soil, is protective of health for current and future Site users and would not adversely affect groundwater quality. In November 2017, DTSC concluded that no further action was needed, that the Operations & Maintenance Agreement between UCR and DTSC could be terminated, and that the groundwater monitoring wells could be abandoned.

The results of risk screening evaluations indicate that low concentrations of chemicals of potential concern in soil do not pose an unacceptable health risk to future workers at the Site. Although potential exposure to chemicals present in soil at the Site do not pose a threat to future workers at the Site, soil management measures described in the Soil Management, Implementation and Enforcement Plan dated June 2020 should be followed before and during construction activities, or activities involving excavation of four feet or more below ground surface.

### *Soil Management Measures During Construction Activities, or Activities Involving Excavation of Four Feet or More Below Ground Surface*

- 1) During construction or excavation activities, workers should use basic health and safety precautions when handling or disturbing soil within the remediation area. Precautions should include:
  - a) Wearing gloves when handling Site soil
  - b) Washing face and hands before eating, drinking, or smoking when working in the Site area
- 2) During construction or excavation activities, workers should implement construction and excavation soil management measures, including:
  - a) Control of dust generated at the Site
  - b) Prevention of storm water runoff
  - c) Decontamination of equipment

### *Prohibited Uses and Activities*

The Property shall not be used for any of the following purposes:

- (a) A residence, including any mobile home or factory-built housing, constructed or installed for use as residential human habitation
- (b) A hospital for humans
- (c) Indoor classroom for persons under 18 years of age
- (d) A day care center for children

The following activities shall not be conducted at the Property:

- (a) Raising of food for human or animal consumption
- (b) Drilling for water, oil, or gas leaving exposed soil at the site which may migrate to other locations by weather or human action
- (c) Extraction of groundwater for purposes other than site remediation or construction dewatering
- (d) Classroom activities for persons under the age of 18

