

# Buying or Selling a Home in the Everett Smelter Cleanup Area



## MORE INFORMATION

### Smelter Search

Check if a home is within the clean-up area: [fortress.wa.gov/ecy/smeltersearch](http://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/smeltersearch)

### Cleaned Up Properties List

Search this database to see if your property has been cleaned up: [1.usa.gov/1CVvQR5](http://1.usa.gov/1CVvQR5)

### Everett Smelter Cleanup

Find out more at: [ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites\\_brochure/asarco/es\\_main.html](http://ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites_brochure/asarco/es_main.html)

### Project Hotline:

(425) 446-1024

### Have Health Questions?

Contact Jim White, Toxicologist at the Washington Department of Ecology.  
(360) 407-7324  
[jim.white@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:jim.white@ecy.wa.gov)

### Special accommodations

To request ADA accommodation for disabilities, or printed materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at (425) 649-7000 or visit <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/accessibility.html>. Persons with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. Persons with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.

A former Asarco smelter caused widespread arsenic and lead contamination in north Everett. Ecology is cleaning up arsenic contamination on residential, park, and industrial properties in the cleanup area (see map). Whether you are selling or buying property in Everett, it is important to have complete information. The Department of Ecology offers several ways for you to find out if a property is in the cleanup area, determine a property's cleanup status, and understand your responsibilities.



## Is a property in the cleanup area?

Find out if a property is in the Everett Smelter cleanup area by checking online at [fortress.wa.gov/ecy/smeltersearch/](http://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/smeltersearch/). Type in the property address and click "Find."

## Has the property been cleaned up?

If a property is inside the cleanup area, you can find out whether it has been cleaned up. A list of all the properties that have gone through Everett Smelter cleanup can be found on our website: [ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites\\_brochure/asarco/es\\_main.html](http://ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites_brochure/asarco/es_main.html).

## How should contamination be disclosed during a sale?

**Homeowners selling properties in the cleanup area must comply with state disclosure law.** Work with your real estate agent to fill out the seller's disclosure statement required by RCW 64.06.020 (sometimes called "Form 17") and indicate if there is contamination on the property. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call us. To learn more about the soil at your property, call the project hotline at 425-446-1024.

## What should I do if I am selling my home?

- **Check if your property is in the cleanup area and if it has been cleaned up (see prior page).**
- **If your property has been cleaned up**, get cleanup documentation. Ecology sends owners a property record when cleanup is complete. This should be provided to any new owner. If you do not have these records, contact Ecology for a copy.
- **If your property is in the cleanup area but has not been cleaned up**, find out if your property has had or qualifies for free soil testing. Contact Ecology to learn more.
- **Remember to comply with state disclosure law.** Work with your real estate agent to fill out the seller's disclosure statement (required by RCW 64.06.020) and indicate if there is contamination on the property. Call us to learn more: 425-446-1024.

## What should I do if I am buying a home?

- **Find out what's in the soil.** Check if the property is in the cleanup area and whether it has been cleaned up. Use the links on the first page to collect this information.
- **Check the seller disclosure form** (see selling a home). Request a disclosure statement from the seller to see the answer to any of the questions in the "Environment" section.
- If the property has been cleaned up, **ask to see documentation of cleanup work.** Ecology sends all owners a record of work on a property when cleanup is complete. Interested purchasers can request this information from the property owner.
- **Call us with questions.** To learn more about the soil at the property, call the project hotline at 425-446-1024.

## Healthy Actions: Important Safety Guidelines

Although a lot of contaminated soil has already been removed from the Everett Smelter Cleanup area, soil with lower levels of contamination remains on many properties and may pose a health hazard over time. Healthy Actions are simple things you and your family or your tenants can do to keep contaminated soil out of your home and out of your body. Even relatively small changes can help you reduce the risk of contact with arsenic.

- **Wash your hands** well after playing in the dirt.
- Keep dust down—**damp mop and damp dust** regularly.
- Eat fruits and vegetables—but wash them first.
- **Wear gloves** while you garden.
- **Take your shoes off!** Don't track dirt in the house.
- **Wash toys** and pacifiers often.
- Brush and **bathe your pets** often.
- **Garden in raised beds** or containers filled with clean soil.
- **Vacuum often** with a machine that has a HEPA filter.