

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Here are some of the questions that have been most frequently asked by local residents.

### **Q. What is the status of the soil removal project in the Cypress Creek community?**

A. Velsicol has completed the soil removal process at all residential properties.

### **Q. Who is supervising this work?**

A. This soil removal project is being conducted under the direction and supervision of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC).

### **Q. How will the soil be removed from the home sites?**

A. The process entails digging up the affected soil, spraying it with water to contain dust and removing the soil in covered trucks to the Velsicol manufacturing plant site on Warford Street. The transported soil will then be placed in a state-approved consolidation area at our facility.

### **Q. Is there any odor associated with the cleanup?**

A. Some odor may be noticed as the result of the natural breakup of organic compounds buried deep in the soil. As the soil is dug up and exposed to the air, it releases this distinctive odor. There is no health risk associated with this odor.

### **Q. What happens to the yards after the soil is removed?**

A. Velsicol replaced the soil with clean dirt, lay new sod and return the landscaping to its original or an improved condition.

### **Q. Why are the workers wearing white, protective suits during the cleanup?**

A. Federal health and safety regulations require that our workers wear this special clothing for protection. However, you should not be concerned because the work does not pose a risk to the homeowners or general public. Air monitoring is also being performed as an extra precaution.

### **Q. What if I decide that I want the soil from my yard to be tested and removed and replaced?**

A. TDEC is the lead regulatory agency on the Cypress Creek project. They make decisions on the need for soil testing and for cleanup at specific properties based on the level of contaminants found in the soil.

### **Q. Why is Velsicol undertaking this soil removal project?**

A. This project is a result of a comprehensive soil investigation that Velsicol completed under the direction and oversight of TDEC. Varying amounts of certain chemicals were found on the properties as the result of industrial wastes discharged to the Creek in the 1950s and early 60s. From the start of this project, Velsicol has promised the Cypress Creek community that we would take protective measures as necessary in the event that chemical contaminants, possibly from the Velsicol site, were found in the soil. The soil removed from these 12 yards, as well as other properties which the State may identify in the future, will help bring closure to questions about the Cypress Creek neighborhoods and allow residents to focus on developing the area.

### **Q. Who can I contact for more information?**

A. If you have any additional questions, please contact the following people:

George Harvell  
Velsicol's Memphis Environmental Center  
1-901-323-6180  
[gharvell@velsicol.com](mailto:gharvell@velsicol.com)

Charles Burroughs  
Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation  
1-615-532-0863  
[charles.burroughs@state.tn.us](mailto:charles.burroughs@state.tn.us)