DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Everett Smelter Cleanup

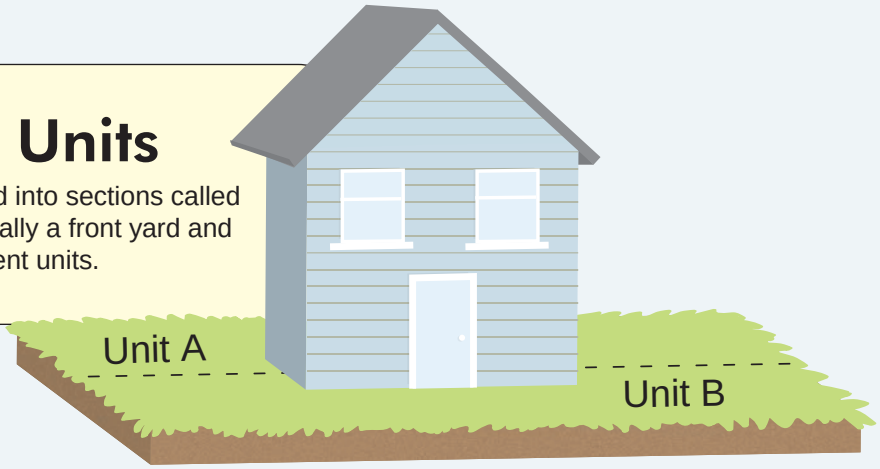
Cleanup Decision Process

The steps below outline how Ecology determines if a property should be cleaned up.

1

Decision Units

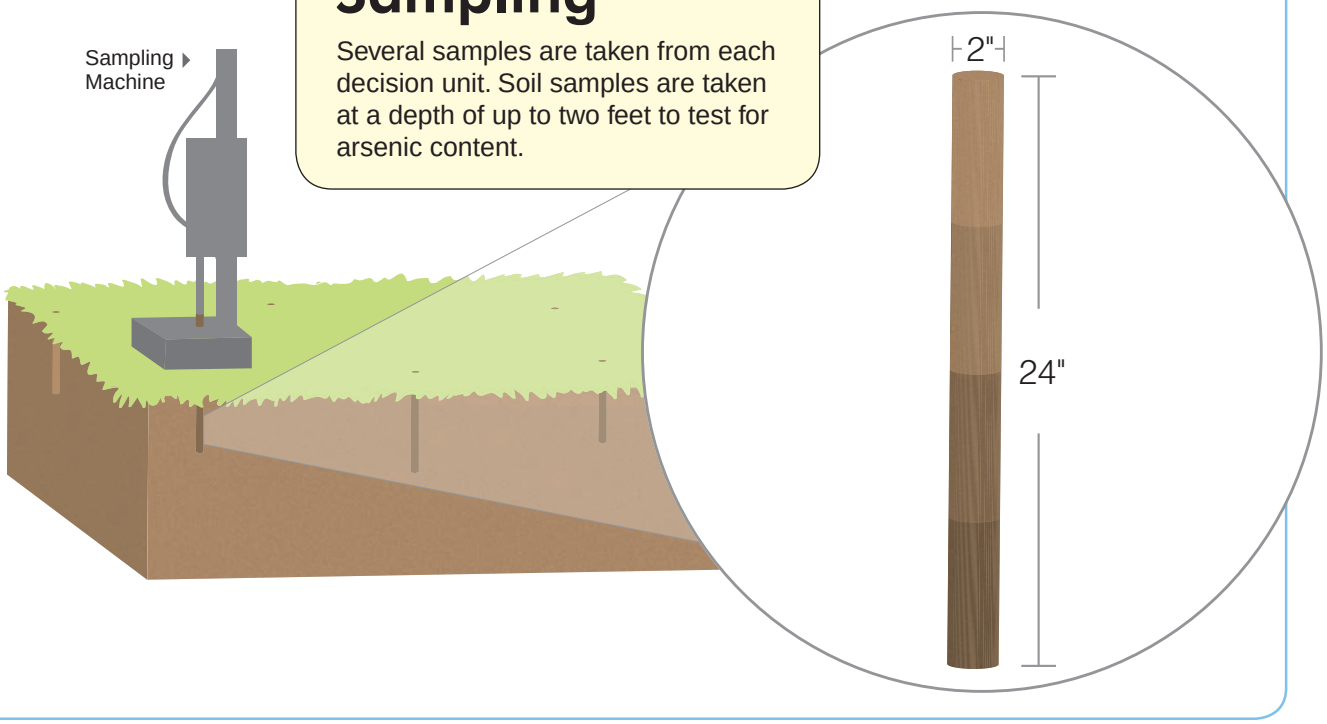
A property is divided into sections called decision units. Typically a front yard and back yard are different units.



2

Sampling

Several samples are taken from each decision unit. Soil samples are taken at a depth of up to two feet to test for arsenic content.



3

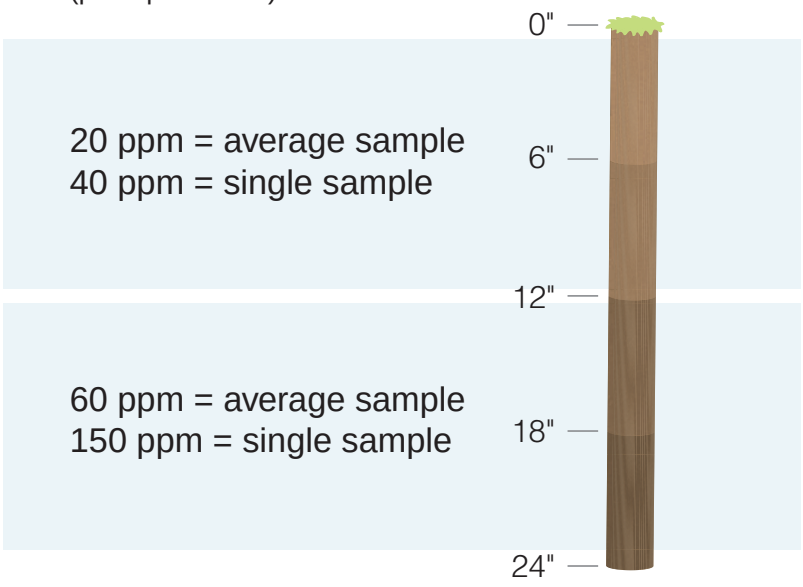
Analysis and Cleanup Levels

The samples are taken to a lab and tested for arsenic content in six inch sections.

Ecology compares the soil sample results to the cleanup guidelines developed for the site to determine how much soil to remove.

The project cleanup level changes below one foot since the likelihood and frequency of contact with soil generally decreases with depth.

Everett Smelter Project Cleanup Levels
(parts per million)



4

Dig Decision

Ecology asks two questions to determine if soil removal is needed:

1. Is the **average level of arsenic** at any given depth above the project cleanup level?

   For example, at 0-6 inches, is the average level of all the soil samples above 20 parts per million (ppm)? If so, then soil removal is recommended.

2. Is the **level of arsenic in any single soil sample** at any given depth above the project cleanup level?

   For example, at 0-6 inches, does a single sample have a concentration greater than 40 ppm? If so, then soil removal is recommended.

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