



St. Bernard Landfill Ludlow Park Soccer Fields

August 9, 2010



This status report is being issued on behalf of the Office of Mayor William (Bill) C. Burkhardt and the St. Bernard City Council regarding air and soil sampling recently completed at the Ludlow Park soccer fields. The Park soccer fields are located on top of the former St. Bernard Landfill.

Since 2001, the City has collected a substantial volume of data regarding the Landfill. These data include measurements of methane emissions as well as testing for the presence of potentially harmful substances. These data have consistently indicated that the levels of methane and potentially harmful substances at the Park are within ranges considered safe by the U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA.

In July 2010, information provided during a local radio station interview suggested that potentially harmful levels of chemicals were present on the Park soccer fields. While no information substantiating this claim was provided, the City immediately requested that direct sampling of soccer field soils and air be completed to verify prior findings. A total of nine (9) soil samples were obtained from the soccer field surface and two ambient air samples were collected over a period of 24 hours.

The results of both soil and air sampling indicate that the soccer fields meet and generally substantially exceed target levels established by Ohio EPA for use of the Park as a recreational facility, including use by adolescent children. It is noted that arsenic, which is present as a naturally occurring metal in Ohio soils, was measured at levels slightly above the Ohio EPA standard suggested for recreational facilities. However, arsenic levels in Ohio soils are typically measured at twice that found at the Park. This indicates that arsenic levels recorded reflect the natural concentration in soils used to construct the soccer fields and are not related to buried material located within the Landfill.

The City appreciates ongoing interest in Ludlow Park and assures all residents that our efforts to maintain a safe, clean and environmentally friendly Park will continue as we continue post closure maintenance of the St. Bernard Landfill.

Thank You