

Guide to Brownfield Contaminants

The following table identifies activities that may have caused contamination at brownfields sites. The table summarizes contaminants that are related to such activities and identifies sources for the contaminants; however, it is not an exhaustive list of contaminants that can be found at a brownfield site. Identifying contaminants that may be present should be determined on a site-by-site basis. Such determination should be conducted thoroughly and carefully. Information for this table was compiled from several sources, including various EPA *Guides to Pollution Prevention* for selected industries.

Former use of land:

Contaminants that may be present:

Agriculture	VOCs, arsenic, copper, carbon tetrachloride, ethylene dibromide and methylene chloride, pesticides, insecticides, herbicides, grain fumigants
Automotive refinishing and repair	Some metals and metal dust, various organic compounds, solvents, paint and paint sludges, scrap metal, waste oils
Battery Recycling and Disposal	Lead, cadmium, acids, nickel, copper, zinc, arsenic, chromium
Coal Gasification	PAHs, sulfur compounds, cyanide, aluminum, iron, lead, nickel, chromium
Cosmetics Manufacturing	Heavy Metals, Dusts, Acids
Electroplating	Cadmium, Chromium, Cyanide, Copper, Nickel
Dry Cleaning Activities	Various solvents, VOCs such as chloroform and tetrachloroethane, spot removers, fluorocarbon 113, perchloroethylene
Gas Station	Gasoline, Diesel Fuel, Metals, Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Underground Storage Tanks
Hospitals	Formaldehyde, radionuclides, photographic chemicals, solvents, mercury, ethylene oxide, chemotherapy chemicals
Glass Manufacturing	Arsenic, Lead
Landfill (Garbage Dump)	Metals, Household Products, Ammonia, Methane, Pesticides
Leather Manufacturing	Toluene, Benzene
Machine Shop / Metal Fabrication	Metals, Dioxin, Degreasing Agents, Waste Oils
Marine Maintenance (Boat Repair)	Solvents, Paints, Cyanide, Acids, Heavy Metals
Petroleum (Oil) Refining and Reuse	Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Benzene, Toluene, Xylene, Ethylenebenzene, Fuels, Oil, Grease
Printing Industry	Silver, Solvents, Waste Oils, Acids, Inks and Dyes, Photographic Chemicals
Railroad Yard	Petroleum Hydrocarbons, Benzene, Toluene, PCBs, Ethylenebenzene, Xylene, Solvents, Fuels, Lead, Oil, Grease

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Research Institution	Organic Solvents, Paint, Inorganic Solvents, Metals, Metal Dust, Heavy Metals, Pesticides, Photographic Waste, Waste Oil
Scrap metal operations	Various metals (such as lead and nickel), PCBs, dioxin, transformers
Wood Preserving	Creosote, PCP, Arsenic, Zinc, Chromium, Copper, PCBs, Beryllium, Dioxin, Wood Preservatives
Wood pulp and paper manufacturing	Chlorinated organic compounds, dioxin, furans, chloroform, resin acids
Steel Mill	Metals, Inorganics, Acids, Toxic Compounds, Semi-volatile Organics including those in Oil and Grease, Volatile Organic Compounds
Steel Mill Deposits	Slag, Heavy Metals

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