



DECEMBER 2024

Current and Upcoming Activities

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is sampling former dry cleaning facilities and surrounding properties for chemicals that may enter buildings in vapor form. In the coming months, EPA will collect and analyze samples of indoor air and gas that is in the soil, originating from contaminated groundwater at the Former Antoine Laundry site in Carolina, Puerto Rico. This information will help EPA determine if chlorinated volatile organic compounds (CVOCs) from past drycleaning operation is posing a risk to people's health.



EPA will sample within a 100-foot radius of the site, covering properties such as schools, businesses, lodging facilities, religious institutions, residential homes, and roads. EPA will obtain access agreements from property owners and tenants before conducting any sampling. Depending on the results of this assessment, EPA may expand the study area to include additional properties.

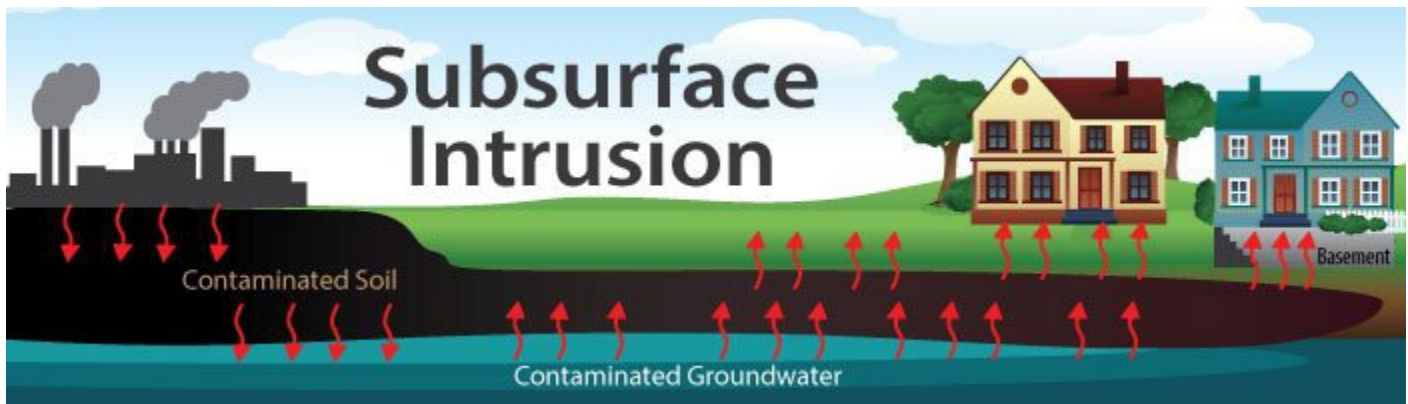


Figure above illustrates a conceptual model of Subsurface Intrusion, which is a migration of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants from unsaturated zone or shallow groundwater into overlying structures through sumps, and/or cracks. The hazardous substances are released from a facility, contaminates the subsurface soil and groundwater, and then migrates into buildings.

Past Activities

In January 2024, EPA collected soil gas, soil, and groundwater samples from the Former Antoine Laundry site, which confirmed that there was hazardous waste present at the site. The sampling results indicated elevated levels of tetrachloroethylene and trichloroethylene in soil gas and groundwater samples.

Site Background

The Former Antoine Laundry site, located at 125 Avenida Isla Verde is in a mixed residential and commercial urban area in a northern portion of Carolina, Puerto Rico. The site is a former laundry and dry-cleaning facility that operated from approximately 1975 to around 2022. The facility historically used tetrachloroethylene (PCE or PERC), a nonflammable, liquid solvent widely used in dry cleaning, wood processing, fabric manufacturing, and metal degreasing. The building is currently vacant.

EPA Contact Information

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