

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Gary King, Acting Chief, Bureau of Land, Illinois EPA  
Region 5 Greener Cleanups Workshop  
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# GREENER CLEANUPS IN ILLINOIS

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# GREENER CLEANUPS IN ILLINOIS

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- ✘ The Matrix
- ✘ 5 Guiding Principles
- ✘ Strategy Mind Maps and Decision Trees
- ✘ Illinois EPA RCRA Pilot Study with USEPA Region 9
- ✘ Active in Task Group developing ASTM Standard Guide for Green and Sustainable Site Assessment and Cleanup



Pat Quinn, Governor

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## Greener Cleanups

Greener Cleanups are less polluting, more efficient cleanup activities and technologies designed to increase the environmental benefits of remediation. By performing greener cleanups, you can:

- Reduce carbon emissions and other greenhouse gases,
- Conserve natural resources,
- Improve energy efficiencies (and decrease costs), and
- Reduce waste material requiring off-site disposal.

Illinois EPA has developed a series of tools to help site owners, developers and their consultants in incorporating greener cleanup practices. This effort applies to every cleanup program in the Bureau of Land, though specific tools have been created for LUST sites.

### Five Guiding Principles for Greener Cleanups in Illinois

1. Ensure every cleanup protects human health and the environment.
2. Integrate site reuse plans into the cleanup strategy.
  - a. Sequence work to improve efficiency.
  - b. Make use of engineered barriers and institutional controls that are compatible with future site development.
3. Conserve raw materials such as soil and water; salvage building materials and other resources.
  - a. Reduce waste disposal.
  - b. Reduce the need for new materials, including clean fill and potable water.
  - c. Use existing infrastructure.
4. Conserve energy.
  - a. Reduce energy consumption.
  - b. Use renewable energy sources to power cleanup activities where possible.
5. Consider the environmental effects of treatment technologies when choosing a site remedy.

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# THE MATRIX

## Greener Cleanups: How to Maximize the Environmental Benefits of Site Remediation

action	level of effort	cost	schedule	technical complexity	benefits														
					air	water	land	energy											
<b>assessment</b>																			
Collect data necessary for site-specific risk assessment	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Collect data necessary to evaluate recycling options for waste and debris	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Collect data necessary to evaluate alternate treatment methods	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Develop and quantify base case remediation scenario	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Organize site layout to meet regulatory needs and reduce excavation requirements	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Use engineered barriers	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Use permeable barriers	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Use institutional controls	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Use site-specific risk assessments	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Use soil management zones	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Develop sequencing plan for work to integrate cleanup with construction	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Identify salvage options for materials from existing structures	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Identify recycling options for waste and debris, such as metal, C&S, slag, and tires	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Consider reuse options for existing structures	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Consider structural reuse of walls or foundations	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Evaluate active in-situ treatment systems, such as soil vapor extraction, enhanced bioremediation or air sparging	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Evaluate passive in-situ treatment methods, such as natural attenuation or phytoremediation	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Evaluate remediation technologies that permanently destroy contaminants	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Perform a life-cycle analysis of cleanup cost	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Life-cycle analysis supports informed decision-making considering time, cost, remedy effectiveness, and environmental impact of the alternatives																			
<b>cleanup</b>																			
Impose idling restrictions on construction equipment	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Use low-sulfur diesel fuel	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Use alternate fuels (biodiesel, E85)	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Use construction equipment with emissions emission controls	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Sequence work to minimize double-handling of materials	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Cover stockpiles with tarps, apply straw, mulch control measure, or vegetation	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Collect rain water for on-site use, such as dust control	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Implement a water conservation plan	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Capture and treat greywater for reuse	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Abandon rather than remove subsurface structures	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Crush existing structures to optimize debris recovery and produce fill materials	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Grind waste wood and other organics for on-site use	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Use recycled materials for fill	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Routinely evaluate treatment processes for control	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Capture free ammonia or emissions for on-site energy recovery	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Incorporate renewable energy sources, such as wind or solar, into treatment systems	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
Use energy efficient systems and office equipment in job trailer	High	Low	Low	Low	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High

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# 5 GUIDING PRINCIPLES IN ILLINOIS

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## 5 GUIDING PRINCIPLES IN ILLINOIS

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5. Consider the environmental effects of treatment technologies when choosing a site remedy.
  - a. Compare options for contaminant disposition (permanent destruction, pollutant transfer or management in place).
  - b. Evaluate resource demands.
  - c. Assess long-term stewardship responsibilities.

# CHALLENGES TO IMPLEMENTATION

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- ✘ How do we apply big picture thinking to small sites?
- ✘ Can we overcome the perception that conventional practices are easier, faster, cheaper and more effective?
- ✘ Are we competing for attention with another emerging science? (vapor intrusion rulemaking underway in IL)
- ✘ How do we persuade site owners and consultants to incur learning curve costs when this is a voluntary initiative?
- ✘ What impact will this have on project manager workloads?

# FOR MORE INFORMATION

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[www.epa.state.il.us/land/greener-cleanups](http://www.epa.state.il.us/land/greener-cleanups)