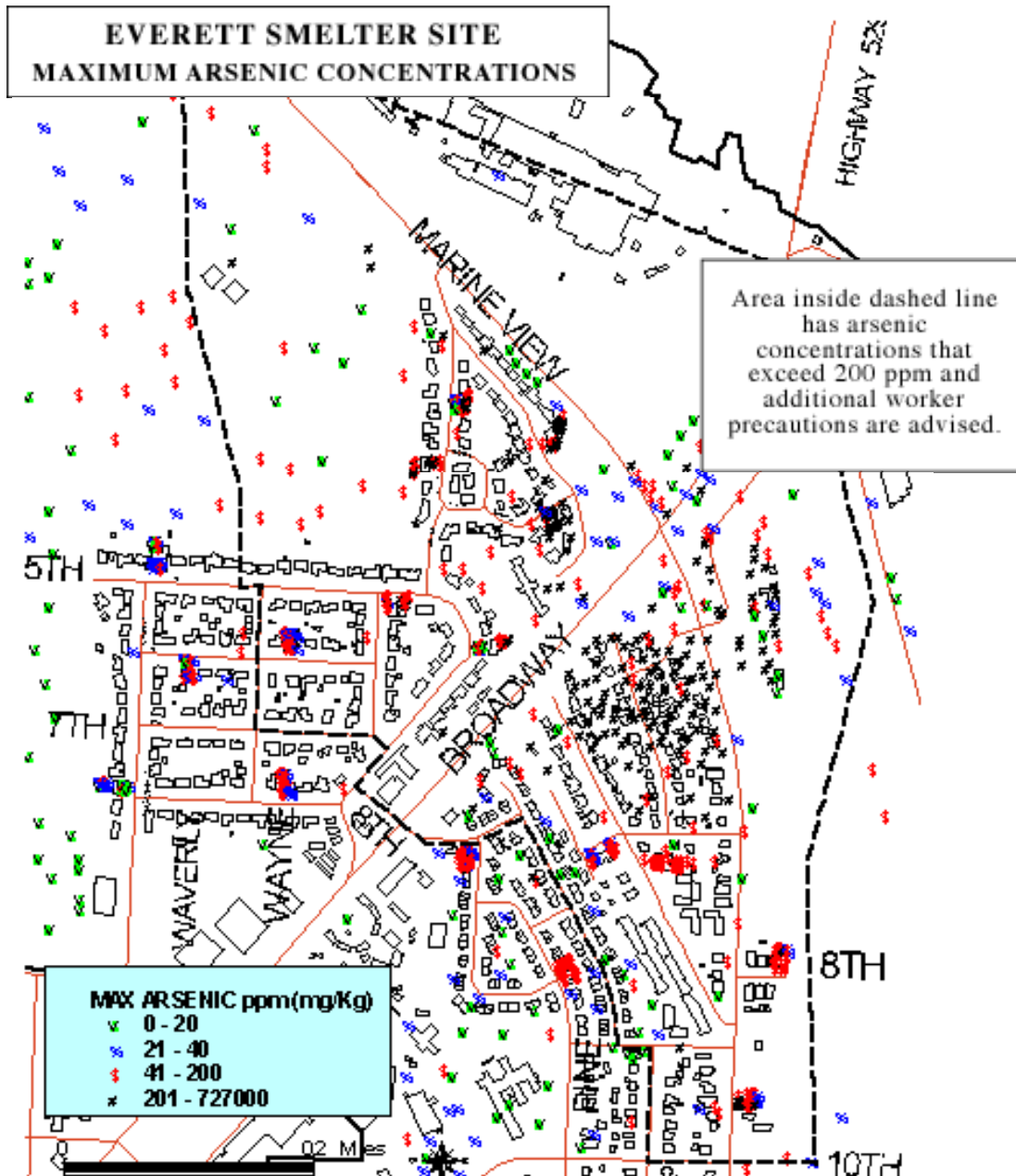


What should I know as an employee, or employer on the site?

The Department of Labor and Industries has issued Good Practice Guidelines for Employers and Employees Working within the Area. The guidelines (page 9) require that workers are at least aware of the problem, and require more extensive safeguards if workers are in soil that has an arsenic concentration above 200 ppm (see map below). A site-wide safety and health program has yet to be established. Until it is established, following the Good Practice Guidelines is recommended. Please note the Snohomish Health District will send a copy of the guidelines, upon request, to anyone who might work in the area.



Good Practice Guidelines

For Employers and Employees

“The Good Practice Guidelines for Employers and Employees Working within the Everett Smelter Study Area” was developed by Washington State Department of Labor for the Everett Smelter Study Area.

These guidelines address the hazards of arsenic, lead, cadmium and other metals as related to the hazardous waste site. They do not address other safety and health hazards or programs that are required by Washington Industrial Safety and Health Administration.



These guidelines were not developed to protect young children or residents who live on the site. See the Public Health Advisory (page 11) for the residential guidelines and other recommendations for reducing residents’ personal exposure.

How to use the Good Practice Guideline Decision Boxes For workers in the Smelter Area.

1. Determine whether the task is above or below ground level. Ground level is the plane of the earth. If the task is both above and below ground level, use the below ground decision box.
2. Determine the soil arsenic concentration (see map on page 8 or sources for additional information on page 21). Use the highest soil level if there are different values.
3. Evaluate whether dust is going to be generated. Dust generation is interpreted to be dust suspended in the air. If you can see it, you are generating dust.
4. Determine which box and quadrant fits your task. Use the letter guidelines in the selected quadrant.
5. Compare your activities/conditions with the exception items. Follow the exceptions where they apply.

ppm = parts per million (mg/kg or ug/g)

Above Ground Tasks

Arsenic in soil \geq 200 ppm?
No Yes

Dust
Generating?

No	AB	AB
Yes	AB	ABCD

Below Ground Tasks

Soil will be disturbed

Arsenic in soil \geq 200 ppm?
No Yes

Dust
Generating?

No	AB	ABC
Yes	ABC	ABCD

Letter guidelines used by employees

A

Hazard communication: Know the arsenic levels in the soil. Know arsenic and other metals in the soil cause health problems. Know appropriate methods to minimize dust exposure. Know that arsenic and other metals can be taken home if precautions are not taken.

B

Personal hygiene: No eating or smoking while doing tasks on location. Wash hands and face before eating or smoking. Wash hands and face before breaks, at the end of the day or task, and when leaving location.

C

Work clothing: Wear coveralls and hat while doing task. When leaving site, remove coveralls and clean hat and shoes. Prevent transfer of hazardous materials by placing removed clothing in a bag for transporting. Launder coveralls separately and carefully.

D

A work site-specific safety plan: A plan is recommended and may be required. See WAC 296-62-3010 for details. **Workers may need additional training,** at least 24 or up to 80 hours, before entering the work site.

Exceptions

Crawling under houses or in similar circumstances is a special situation. The space is enclosed and airborne concentrations of dust can climb rapidly. Add the next letter guideline to the selected decision box.

A site-specific safety plan is recommended and may be required when undertaking large scale site development, or building activities that involve excavation soils. See WAC 296-62-300 (Part P).

All work activity in the current fenced area requires following WAC 296-62-300 (Part P).