

Old Smokey Information Sheet

- From 1925-1970, the City of Miami operated a municipal solid waste incinerator at 3425 Jefferson Street in West Coconut Grove. (Nick Madigan, *In the Shadow of 'Old Smokey,' a Toxic Legacy*, N.Y. TIMES (Sept. 22, 2013), http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/23/us/old-smokey-is-long-gone-from-miami-but-its-toxic-legacy-lingers.html?_r=0).
- Referred to as 'Old Smokey', it was closed by court order in 1970 as a public and private nuisance in a lawsuit filed by the City of Coral Gables. (Jenny Staletovich, *City Inaction on Polluted Soil Angers Residents*, MIAMI HERALD (Sept. 7, 2013), <http://www.miamiherald.com/2013/09/07/3612664/city-inaction-on-polluted-soil.html>).
- After years of renovations, the facility opened in 1983 as the City of Miami Fire Rescue Training Facility. (Jenny Staletovich, *City Inaction on Polluted Soil Angers Residents*, MIAMI HERALD (Sept. 7, 2013), <http://www.miamiherald.com/2013/09/07/3612664/city-inaction-on-polluted-soil.html>).
- Based on document review of the former incinerator site, it appears that until 2013, there had been no formal effort to clean up the former site of Old Smokey or the surrounding areas. (SCS ES Consultants, *Soil Assessment Report Amendment* (Oct. 15, 2013), available at <http://derm.miamidade.gov>) (click accept->choose library search->permitted facilities->enter the address of 3425 Jefferson Street in corresponding boxes->open first folder "pollution control"-> find and click "technical reports"- 2013-10-15).
- In 2011, environmental testing found concentrations of contaminants (arsenic, barium, benzo(a)pyrene (BaP), cadmium, lead) in surface soils above the safe exposure thresholds set by Miami-Dade County. (Cherokee Enterprises, Inc., *Soil Assessment Report* (March 2011), available at <http://derm.miamidade.gov>) (click accept->choose library search->permitted facilities->enter the address of 3425 Jefferson Street in corresponding boxes->open first folder "pollution control"->find and click "technical reports"-2013-03-08).
- A second set of soil tests in 2013 verified the presence of contamination and found higher concentrations of arsenic and BaP. (SCS ES Consultants, *Soil Assessment Report* (May 16, 2013), available at <http://derm.miamidade.gov>) (click accept->choose library search->permitted facilities->enter the address of 3425 Jefferson Street in corresponding boxes->open first folder "pollution control"->find and click "technical reports"-2013-5-22).
- After receiving notice from Miami-Dade County in May 2011, the City of Miami was required to conduct an environmental assessment for the entire site of Old Smokey and to the extent of contamination off-site by July 2011. (Jenny Staletovich, *City Inaction on Polluted Soil Angers Residents*, MIAMI HERALD (Sept. 7, 2013), <http://www.miamiherald.com/2013/09/07/3612664/city-inaction-on-polluted-soil.html>).
- In a July 2013 correspondence, the Miami-Dade County Division of Environmental Resource Management (DERM) instructed the City of Miami to produce an environmental assessment characterizing the extent of contamination throughout the Old Smokey site and surrounding areas by September 2013. (DERM Letter (July 8, 2013), available at <http://derm.miamidade.gov>) (click accept->choose library search->permitted facilities->enter the address of 3425 Jefferson Street in corresponding boxes->open first folder "pollution control"->find and click "correspondence out" - 2013-07-08).
- As of September 2013, a one-mile area-wide study was performed and led to the discovery of contamination at Blanche Park, located on Shipping Avenue in Coconut Grove. Blanche Park had arsenic readings 30 times the allowable level in Miami Dade County. Merrie Christmas Park and Douglas Park have also been closed due to contamination.
 - The City of Miami has stated that these parks were used as dump sites for ash and solid waste prior to becoming parks. (Jenny Staletovich and Patricia Mazzei, *Miami's Douglas Park Shut Down Indefinitely for Widespread Contamination*, MIAMI HERALD (Nov. 22, 2013), <http://www.miamiherald.com/2013/11/22/3771751/miami-park-shut-down-indefinitely.html>).
- After contamination was discovered at Blanche Park and Merrie Christmas Park, Miami-Dade County DERM ordered the City of Miami to investigate all of its 112 parks for contamination. (DERM letter to City of Miami (Sept. 24, 2013), available at <http://derm.miamidade.gov>) (click accept->choose library search->permitted facilities->workgroup type->enter HWR->workgroup number->enter 770-> click search-> open folder-> find and click "correspondence out"-2013-9-24).
- As recently as Dec. 23, 2013, two additional parks, Billy Rolle Domino Park and Southside Park have been closed due to suspected evidence of soil contamination. (Lance Dixon, *Miami closes 2 more parks over potential soil contamination*, MIAMI HERALD (Dec. 23, 2013), <http://www.miamiherald.com/2013/12/23/3835009/miami-closes-2-more-parks-over.html>).
- The soil assessments at the Old Smokey site have shown high concentrations of arsenic, lead, barium, PAH's, and cadmium. (SCS ES Consultants, *Soil Assessment Report Amendment* (Oct. 15, 2013), available at <http://derm.miamidade.gov>) (click accept->choose library search->permitted facilities->enter the address of 3425 Jefferson Street in corresponding boxes->open first folder "pollution control"-> find and click "technical reports" - 2013-10-15).
- University of Miami researchers discovered a pancreatic cancer cluster in the West Grove community. They have speculated there may be an association between arsenic in drinking water and pancreatic cancer. (Liu-Mares et al., *Pancreatic cancer clusters and arsenic-contaminated drinking water wells in Florida*, BMC CANCER 2013, <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2407/13/11>).