

SUPERFUND SITES: HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

What Are Superfund Sites

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), aka “The Superfund,” allows the EPA to **clean up contaminated sites**.

- Forces parties responsible for contamination to perform the cleanup or pay for the cleanup work.
- Superfund pays for the cleanup effort when the responsible party cannot.
- There are currently 46 Superfund sites in North Carolina, of which four have been fully cleaned.

Environmental Justice Impact

73 million people live within three miles of a Superfund site across the US. This population is disproportionately low income and people of color. **All NC superfund sites are located in environmental justice communities** (racial minority and/or low-income).

- More environmental stressors (poor air quality, lead paint, etc) in these areas.
- Generally feature lower educational attainment, lower property values, and more residents working in the manufacturing sector.

The Superfund Has A Variety of Benefits

Cleaning up contamination protects human health



Contaminated Superfund sites can be returned to productive use



Aims to make a visible and lasting difference in these communities



What Do Superfund Sites Look Like?

Superfund sites are the result of historic mismanagement of hazardous waste, whether by accidental spills, illegal dumping, or abandonment

Businesses or industry

Manufacturing facilities

Processing plants

Landfills

Mining sites

