

What is the Sudbury Soils Study?

The Sudbury Soils Study is a 3-year study examining the potential risks to humans and the environment from metals in our soils. We have conducted a number of studies since January 2003 to paint a picture of the many ways people, plants and animals could be exposed to metals in their environment, and to determine if these metals have any effect on health.



2000: Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) reviewed historical soils data for Sudbury, and recommended more data collection, as well as a human health risk assessment (HHRA) and an ecological risk assessment (ERA)

2001: Extensive soil collection and analysis throughout the Greater Sudbury area

2003: HHRA and ERA started

2003-2004: Data collection, review and analysis for risk assessments

2005: Submission of results to Technical Committee and International Expert Peer Review panel.

2006: Final reports expected to be released to the Sudbury community

Study Goals and Objectives

Are metals in Sudbury soils causing unacceptable human health or ecological risks?

To answer this question, we:

1. Define metal concentrations in Sudbury Soils;
2. Conduct Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessments (HHRA and ERA) to determine if there are potential risks to human health and the natural environment in Sudbury;
3. Develop specific strategies to protect Sudbury residents and parts of the natural environment (such as plants and animals); and,
4. Recommend appropriate remedies to minimize potential risks.

Community
Information Session
2005



Sudbury Soils Study | Étude des sols sudburois
metals • health • environment
métaux • santé • environnement