

2003 Camplin Report Halts Use of the Park's Fishing Pier

Dunesland's Health and Safety consultant and asbestos expert Jeffery Camplin produced the Camplin Report in 2003, identifying many dangerous asbestos-contaminated areas throughout the park's beaches and at the Johns-Manville Superfund site which is adjacent to our park's Nature Preserve. One of the outcomes was the closing of the fishing pier and the parking lot adjacent to the Superfund site and the Midwest Generation power plant, located at the Greenwood Avenue street end. This area is known as Site 2 by the USEPA. Asbestos (some friable) had continually heaved out of the ground and had been identified by Mr. Camplin in his many inspections of the area.

Although the USEPA had stated that the site was cleaned up, it remains closed. During the claimed cleanup, Kakuris visited the site and asked what the smell was. The USEPA discovered that beneath the illegal asbestos debris, there was another landfill comprised of other contamination. The USEPA covered it and left it there. The site apparently is not really clean and remains closed. The USEPA has apparently skewed and manipulated their testing protocols, but now seems to be backing off their claim that it is clear of asbestos and poses no health risks. Mr. Camplin discovered that the USEPA had released a statement cautioning that their own cleanup standards for asbestos did not protect the public from the potential health risks of asbestos.

Mr. Camplin has been doing continuous research on the park and the asbestos contamination. His dedication to these issues has been extraordinary and it's satisfying to have a professional in this discipline looking out for Dunesland's and the environment's best interests. Jeff has been on the Dunesland professional team for more than a year. To have someone with credentials of his high caliber has been a real boost for those of us in the trenches. We are very grateful for his dedication.