

Information on Health Concerns Regarding Alleged Dumping at the West Hills County Park Riding Center

In response to recent news regarding alleged illegal dumping at the Sweet Hills Riding Center at West Hills County Park in Melville, the Suffolk County Department of Health Services has received many calls from concerned patrons of the Riding Center. Many patrons are questioning whether they should seek medical testing.

The Suffolk County Department of Health Services, in consultation with the New York State Department of Health, and the Occupational and Environmental Health Center of Long Island, has reviewed data obtained from the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office of soil samples collected at the Sweet Hills Riding Center at West Hills County Park. The preliminary evaluation found that contaminant levels in the samples were similar to soil levels seen in many residential areas. The Suffolk County Department of Health Services will be issuing additional information regarding their evaluation of this information in the near future.

Regarding medical testing, based on a review of the data, it is the consensus of the State Health Department, the Occupational and Environmental Health Center of Long Island, and the Suffolk County Department of Health Services that there is no need for blood or other testing (such as urine or skin testing). Furthermore, such testing would not provide useful information to individuals who participated in activities at the Sweet Hills Riding Center or their health care providers. We encourage individuals who would like more information to contact the specialty organizations below and/or their healthcare provider.

For questions related to adult exposures:
Occupational and Environmental Medicine of Long Island: 631-439-5300
516-492-3297
<https://www.northwell.edu/find-care/services-we-offer/occupational-and-environmental-medicine/about#37106>

For questions related to pediatric exposures:
Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit at Mount Sinai Hospital, New York:
866-265-6201; <http://icahn.mssm.edu/research/pehsu>

Suffolk County Department of Health Services Contact: 631-854-0085