

ATSDR Public Health Investment

Florida

CDC/ATSDR support Florida to reduce exposure to hazardous substances in the environment

ATSDR funds 25 cooperative agreements to help states build their capacity to assess and respond to site-specific issues involving human exposure to hazardous substances in the environment.

Public Health in Action

Rolling Hills Landfill — ATSDR and Florida DOH found that the levels of hydrogen sulfide coming from this private landfill in Pensacola were a public health hazard. State and county environmental agencies then halted landfill operations, reducing hydrogen sulfide levels and protecting the health of the adjacent minority community.

Key projects

- **Orange County Landfill** — Disposal of drywall along with municipal garbage created hydrogen sulfide odor. Orange County has corrected the problem, and Florida DOH is monitoring hydrogen sulfide levels. ATSDR provides technical resources for assessing odors and reducing odor exposures to communities.
- **Former Miami Incinerator #2** — Nearby residents petitioned ATSDR to assess the health threat from Miami's former incinerator. Florida DOH is evaluating the health threat from current exposure to bottom ash in the residential area surrounding the site. ATSDR works with the state to determine environmental sampling needs and provide technical assistance during the health assessment process.
- **Fairfax Street Wood Treaters** — In 2012, EPA added this site to the NPL. A 2016 ATSDR/Florida DOH public health assessment report found arsenic levels in on-site soil are a health risk, but levels in nearby residential yards are not. ATSDR works with states on NPL sites to recommend actions to protect the public's health.

State Priorities

- **Indoor Air Quality** — Evaluating sites for the potential of chemicals to enter indoor air from contaminated ground water and soil (vapor intrusion). ATSDR supports this priority by providing scientific and technical expertise during the health assessment process.

Florida

Award amount:

\$443,878 per year

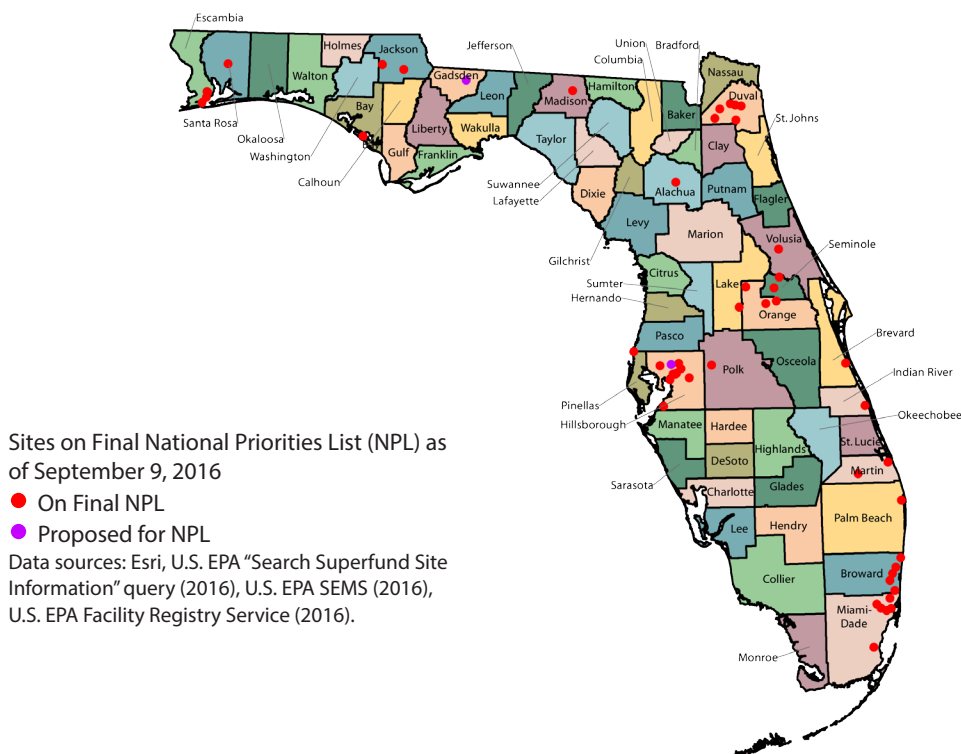
Term: 3 years

Grantee since: 1988

About ATSDR

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), based in Atlanta, Georgia along with 10 regional offices, is a federal public health agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. ATSDR serves the public by using the best science, taking responsive public health actions, and providing trusted health information to prevent harmful exposures and diseases related to toxic substances.

“Because of ATSDR’s support, Florida DOH has become a trusted source of health information for people living around hazardous waste sites.” – Randy Merchant



Did You Know?

- ATSDR and Florida DOH have evaluated public health threats at over 100 different hazardous waste sites in Florida and produced over 200 reports.
- In 2011, Florida DOH led a workgroup that persuaded EPA to look for dioxins in the dust of houses adjacent to Gainesville’s Koppers hazardous waste site.
- In July 2016, ATSDR held a SoilSHOP event in Jacksonville to promote urban agriculture in an area with few grocery stores.

Learn more

Follow these links to learn more about programs protecting public health in Florida:

ATSDR — <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/>

Division of Community Health Investigations (DCHI) — <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/hac/index.html>

ATSDR Public Health Assessments and Consultations for Florida — <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/HAC/PHA/HCPHA.asp?State=FL>

Florida Department of Health - Hazardous Waste Site Assessment Program — <http://www.floridahealth.gov/environmental-health/hazardous-waste-sites/index.html>

ATSDR SoilSHOP Program — <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/soilshop/index.html>

ATSDR – The most trusted Agency protecting American communities from environmental health threats through application of state of the art science.

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