

# THE AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND DISEASE REGISTRY

The mission of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) is to prevent exposure and adverse human health effects and diminished quality of life associated with exposure to hazardous substances from waste sites, unplanned releases, and other sources of pollution present in the environment.

## ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY ATSDR



- ▶ Public Health Assessments
- ▶ Health Consultations
- ▶ Health Investigations
- ▶ Exposure Registry
- ▶ Toxicological Profiles
- ▶ Applied Research
- ▶ Health Education
- ▶ Emergency Response

The Environmental Programs Directorate at the Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center accompanies ATSDR on their site visits and serves as liaison between ATSDR and the Navy/Marine Corps facility which is visited. We also review documents produced by ATSDR and coordinate health education.

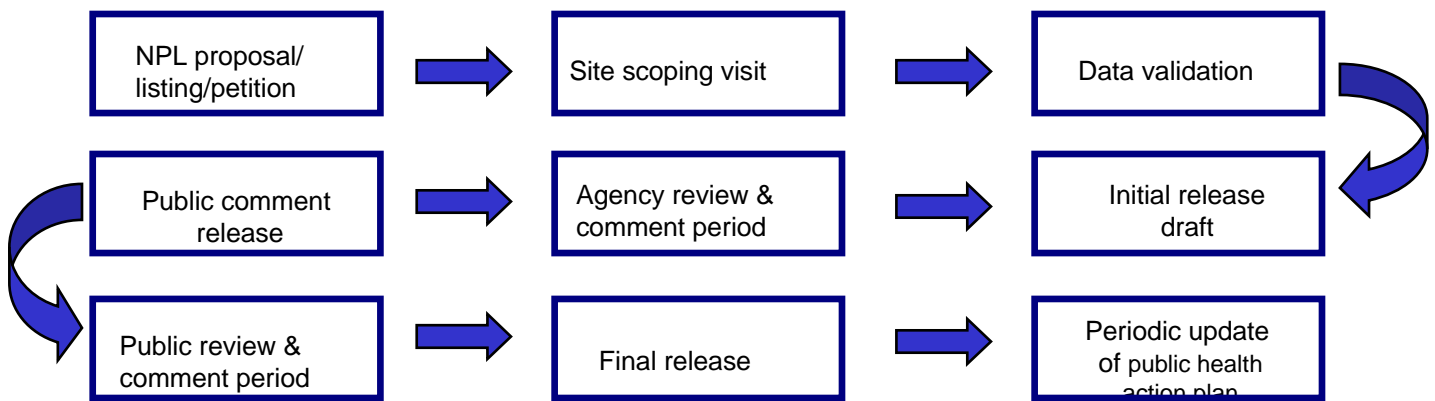
# ATSDR EVALUATION

## GOALS OF ATSDR



- ▶ Identify people at health risk because of their exposure to substances in the environment.
- ▶ Evaluate relationships between substances in the environment and human health outcomes.
- ▶ Intervene to eliminate exposures of health concern and prevent or mitigate human health outcomes related to substances in the environment.

## PUBLIC HEALTH ASSESSMENT PROCEDURAL STEPS



## ACTIVITIES DURING PUBLIC HEALTH ASSESSMENT

- ▶ Evaluate past/current/future environmental & health information for affects on public health
- ▶ Assess public concerns and community interests
- ▶ Identify health studies needed to prevent human health effects
- ▶ Develop public health advisories/recommendations
- ▶ Determine public health education criteria/needs
- ▶ Prepare public health action plans

# ATSDR'S PERSPECTIVE

## DIFFERENCES IN ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCIES' REQUIREMENTS



ATSDR	EPA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Assesses facility and community</li><li>▶ Provides professional judgements</li><li>▶ Prevents adverse health effects</li><li>▶ Promotes awareness</li><li>▶ Requires surface soil samples less than 3 inches</li><li>▶ Requires edible portion biota studies</li><li>▶ Examines all historical, state, federal, and site-specific documents</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Assesses specific sites</li><li>▶ Determines numerical risk estimates</li><li>▶ Facilitates remediation</li><li>▶ Includes remedial corrective measures</li><li>▶ Requires surface soil from 0 - 18"</li><li>▶ Requires general biota sampling</li><li>▶ Examines all IR program and compliance reports</li></ul>

### Sources of Additional Information



- ▶ Point of contact at ATSDR/EPA
- ▶ Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center
- ▶ Navy Team Leader
- ▶ Installation Restoration Program Manager
- ▶ Community Availability Sessions
- ▶ Local Community Groups
- ▶ Public Meetings
- ▶ Medical Representatives