

Additional Resources

Burke County Emergency Management Agency
706-554-5498

Radiation and Your Health
www.cdc.gov/nceh/radiation/

Emergency Preparedness and Response
emergency.cdc.gov/radiation/index.asp

For more information, please visit our
webpage at
www.srel.uga.edu/outreach/REMOP

Please reach out to UGA SREL's Project
Coordinator or one of Georgia WAND's
Community Organizers with questions.

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Savannah River Ecology Laboratory
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

RADIOLOGICAL EDUCATION, MONITORING, & OUTREACH PROJECT (REMOP)



GOALS

1. Understand the perceptions and needs of the community on the risks of radionuclide contamination, public health concerns, and monitoring programs in the area.
2. Develop and conduct education and outreach materials based on environmental monitoring efforts for radionuclides in Burke County, Georgia.



We give monthly Community Talks on topics centered around environmental monitoring.

Who is involved?

The University of Georgia's Savannah River Ecology Laboratory (UGA SREL) is leading REMOP. We are creating and teaching the educational materials as well as collecting and analyzing the samples from Burke County. REMOP is funded by the Department of Energy.

Georgia WAND assists in connecting REMOP personnel with the Shell Bluff community and Burke County citizens.

REMOP is supported by a Community Advisory Council made-up of residents and leaders from Burke County and an External Advisory Council of experts from multiple disciplines, including environmental toxicology, nuclear engineering, environmental justice, and local stakeholders.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

The Background

The contaminant history in Shell Bluff and Burke County focuses around two well-known sources, the Department of Energy Savannah River Site (SRS) and Georgia Power's Plant Vogtle. There are multiple groups that perform monitoring of radionuclides and heavy metals in the area – including SRS and Plant Vogtle. Governmental agencies data are publicly available but sometimes hard to find or understand. The Georgia Environmental Protections Division monitored radionuclides from the early 1970s until 2002. Since the end of the Georgia EPD monitoring program, Concerns have remained about the need for additional monitoring in Georgia.

SREL is also planning to conduct data collection from water (both well water and surface waters), soil, garden vegetables, and domestic animals in 2018 for educational purposes and for comparison to past and current monitoring data. We'll randomly collect these samples from citizens who have volunteered their water, soil, vegetables, or meat for sampling.

These samples will be tested for radionuclides by an independent laboratory and tested for a suite of heavy metals, like lead and mercury, by UGA SREL. These results will allow us to better explain the environmental monitoring process as well as provide additional information to Burke County citizens.

Data collected as part of REMOP are intended to be used for educational and outreach purposes only, and are not for environmental monitoring or any regulatory purposes. Data collected under REMOP will not meet the requirements of a legally authorized monitoring program. For example, data collected under REMOP will not be gathered in compliance with the geographic, statistical, or site selection procedures required of a legally authorized monitoring program conducted by or on behalf of any regulatory agencies. We will collect these samples in partnership with community members and present the results during the second year of REMOP.