



PO Box 204
Superior AZ, 85173

Telephone: 520 203-0700
Email: SSP@ghd.com

Questions & Answers about the Superior Soil Program

Why is BHP conducting the Superior Soil Program?

BHP is working in cooperation with the Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP) at the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), to conduct a soil remediation program in the town of Superior, Arizona. BHP has elected to initiate the Superior Soil Program to address potential soil impacts in the vicinity of historical mining and mineral processing activities from the former Magma Mine west plant site.

What is the relationship between BHP and GHD?

BHP is the entity responsible for the Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP), overseeing compliance with regulatory requirements and ensuring the project is completed effectively. GHD is the contractor hired by BHP to manage and execute the project. GHD's responsibilities include overseeing sampling efforts, conducting environmental investigations, managing outreach and communications, coordinating remediation and construction activities, and ensuring the overall project runs smoothly. BHP and GHD have a 40-year working relationship and a strong partnership that we are confident will deliver the best outcomes for the town of Superior and those involved in the VRP.

What metals is the Superior Soil Program testing for? Where did they come from?

The Superior Soil Program is testing for elevated levels of arsenic and lead in soil. These metals may be present due to both natural occurrences and human activities. Naturally occurring metals tend to be found at higher concentrations in soils that are near mineralized areas, such as Superior. This program will test for arsenic and lead that may have resulted from historical impacts from mining activities.

What properties are eligible to participate in the Superior Soil Program?

Residential, commercial, and public properties (such as schools and parks) within the study area, which spans the Town of Superior, are eligible to participate. The study area was determined based on sampling data, proximity to the mine site, historical land use, and prevailing wind patterns. A map can be found in the solicitation package or at the Superior Soil Program Office.

When will soil sampling be offered?

BHP will begin a soil sampling pilot study in 2025 to ensure minimal disruptions to property owners. Following the pilot study, a larger sampling and remediation program will be initiated. Eligible property owners are encouraged to participate in the Superior Soil Program. All sampling efforts will be conducted under the oversight of ADEQ and provided at no cost to property owners.



PO Box 204
Superior AZ, 85173

Telephone: 520 203-0700
Email: SSP@ghd.com

How do I know if I am eligible to participate? How can I request soil sampling for my property?

If you received a letter inviting you to participate, our records indicate you are the owner of an eligible property located within the study area. To proceed, please complete, sign, and return the enclosed property access agreement, which grants our team permission to access and conduct soil sampling activities on your property. If you have not received a letter, and believe your property is eligible to participate, please reach out to our office at the contact below.

If you have questions or need a new copy of the access agreement, please contact us:

- Call 520-203-0700
- Email SSP@ghd.com
- Visit the Superior Soil Program Outreach Office at 230 Main Street, Superior AZ 85173

If I request soil sampling for my property, what happens next?

After receiving a signed property access agreement, our soil sample team will reach out to the property owner and/or resident to schedule a pre-sampling walkthrough, underground utility locator, and the sampling. At the first visit, a member of our team will work with you to develop a plan for your property. At that time, you should share any concerns regarding underground or overhead utilities on your property or special landscaping circumstances.

Will I need to be present during the soil sampling activities?

Your presence is not required during the sampling, but if you prefer to be present, we can arrange the sampling accordingly. Please ensure gates are unlocked and pets are secured before our team arrives.

How will you collect the samples of soil from my property?

Our team will use a “compacted soil sampler” to collect small samples from multiple locations (typically 30) on your property. Soil will be collected from the top six inches in various areas, and once sampling is complete, any disturbed vegetation will be restored. The collected samples will then be sent to an ADEQ-approved independent laboratory for metals analysis.

How long will sampling take?

The time needed to sample a property will vary depending on its size. The sample team will work with the property owner to create a sampling plan, including avoidance areas and a schedule.

What happens after my property is sampled?

You will receive a letter with the results of your soil sample analysis within 8 to 16 weeks from the date the samples were collected. If remediation is not needed, BHP will provide written confirmation and apply to ADEQ for a No Further Action Determination (NFA).

If arsenic or lead levels exceed ADEQ’s approved cleanup standards, you can join the next phase of the Superior Soil Program for cleanup. Remediation will be completed at no cost to the property owner



PO Box 204
Superior AZ, 85173

Telephone: 520 203-0700
Email: SSP@ghd.com

Do I need to do anything to prep my property for sampling?

Property owners should ensure yard accessibility and keep pets indoors. Before sampling, a team member will conduct a pre-sampling visit to develop a site-specific plan. If you have concerns about underground or overhead utilities or special landscaping considerations, please share them with our staff during this visit.

What happens if my property is damaged?

Homeowners are not responsible for any damage caused by the Superior Soil Program during the work performed as part of the program.

Is there any cost for participation in this program?

No, there is no cost for participants. The Superior Soil Program is entirely voluntary. Eligible participants will be informed at each stage of the process and given the opportunity to decide whether they would like to take part.

If you have additional questions about the Superior Soil Program, please contact us:

- Call 520-203-0700
- Email SSP@ghd.com
- Visit the Superior Soil Program Outreach Office at 230 Main Street, Superior AZ 85173