

Info Opportunity

Opportunity Citizens Protection Association

May, 2007

Opportunity and Warm Springs get air monitors

OCPA, with the help of Jim Kuipers and Associates, has convinced the EPA, that there are real concerns about the fugitive dust leaving the BP/ARCO waste repository. EPA has granted enough money, to place 2 real time air monitors in the area. One will be placed at Warm Springs state hospital and one will be placed in Opportunity. OCPA is happy to announce that both monitors as of May 1, are operational and in place. The one placed in Opportunity, is located close the Country Club. These monitors will measure a number of things. They will monitor particle size as well as content of the dust. They will run 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week. We will now finally be able to tell you just WHAT is in this dust. Within the next few weeks, you will be able to access the readings from the monitors via the internet. This is just one more way OCPA has stepped forward to ensure you clean air in the future.



Dust storm crossing I-90 east of Opportunity



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OCPA is currently looking for new members. We encourage all citizens in the area to join our group and help to protect our future by insuring that the agencies in charge of guaranteeing the citizens of Montana a clean and healthy environment according to our state constitution. If you would like to join or make a contribution to help finance literature and other community interests, call or send a letter to:

OCPA
P.O. box 646
Anaconda Mt. 59711
Or call:
797-3334
797-3343
797-3546

Or if you feel more comfortable, email us at:
ocpa@hotmail.com

Important Community Meeting May 9

On May 9, 2007 at 7pm, OCPA will sponsor a community meeting at the Opportunity Community Club. Jim Kuipers, from Kuipers and Associates will give a update on the new air monitors placed in the Opportunity and Warm Springs area. University of Montana Student Eric Feeley will give a report on water samples collected by OCPA and U of M students. Debbie Johnson from Kuipers and Associates, will give a talk on community growth in Deer Lodge County. We encourage ALL Opportunity Citizens to attend this very important meeting. Your future depends on your health and the people of OCPA are here to help ensure you that you stay healthy by drinking clean water and breathing good air. We need the support of the community on these issues and want to hear any concerns you may have. Please, if you cannot attend our meetings, send us a quick note that says you support what we are doing, to inform you of any dangers you may face by living in the middle of the biggest superfund project in North America.

OCPA and University of Montana conduct water tests

On March 31, 2007, OCPA along with the help of 4 University of Montana Environmental studies students, took water samples from 24 resident wells of Opportunity. The test results from OCPA's water testing are back. Members have seen them and are waiting for the resident copies to arrive by mail. It was decided by the officers that these results will be hand delivered instead of mailed in order to show community residents that we are concerned about their safety and willing to go the extra mile to help them understand the results. A date for May 6th was discussed to deliver them.

We are happy to announce that the samples taken showed safe levels of heavy metal contaminants. OCPA will be hosting a community meeting on May 9 at 7pm to discuss results of the samples taken. I would like to thank everyone for participating in this project. If you did not participate, please have your well sampled soon so we can get data on contaminants, that will

come in handy when providing you with the information you need to stay healthy. Water Environmental Technologies will be taking samples once a month for the next 12 months from selected wells that are owned by citizens who signed up for well testing at OCPA's last community meeting. It is very important that we continue these tests because of the contaminated plumes of ground water that surround our community. OCPA would rather detect the contaminants before they infiltrate your wells and the only way we can do that is by extensive well testing. Your well may test good today but be contaminated with heavy metals by this time next year. Nobody can tell us whether or not this will happen but lets all just play it safe and keep testing our wells. If not for your health, for the health of future generations of Opportunity residents.



Elizabeth from Water Environmental Technologies, training OCPA and U of M students on the proper procedure for taking water samples.

Beaver Dam Park

There is no news on the Beaver Dam Park project. OCPA has been waiting for county officials to come to an agreement with Anaconda School Board to take over the property and move forward with the project. Atlantic Richfield has promised to donate \$50,000.00 to help with the matching funds to acquire 2.5 million dollars from the Dept of Transportation grant. The money was held up by ARCO until Anaconda Deer Lodge county agreed to change the status of their ARCO's property to light industrial status. ADLC agreed to change the status of the property to light industrial but ARCO

still hasn't given the money to us. ADLC and OCPA received a letter from ARCO this week and again the money is being held hostage until ADLC agrees to a land deal with ARCO. We should have our money for the park when ADLC agrees to everything ARCO says. We are looking for donations to help with the matching funds for our park, so if you want to see a first class park, please donate and help the cause. If you choose to make a small donation, please contact any OCPA member.



Beaver Dam School

ARCO dust

OCPA in conjunction with ADLC, Kuipers and Associates and CFR/TAC, has convinced the EPA that the dust conditions in the Opportunity and Warm Springs area, are not acceptable. Our state constitution guarantees the citizens of Montana a clean and healthy environment. Every time the dust blows from the BP/ARCO waste repository, they are violating the state constitution. ARCO has agreed to spray a polymer to the open areas and keep the roads

wet during dry conditions. So far the effort to control the dust, has done little to keep it down. We hope they continue their efforts to control this contaminated dust, so the citizens of the area do not have breath it in for the next 8 to 10 years. If you see dust blowing from this area, please call Ken Brockman @ 491-1933. He will look into the source of the dust and try to make corrections.

"There is so much pollution in the air now that if it weren't for our lungs, there would be no place to put it."

Opportunity Gets Name Back

For years, the name that was tagged onto the waste repository north of our community was "The Opportunity Ponds". In conjunction with ADLC, OCPA has managed to get "The Opportunity Ponds" name taken off the area. When people type in Opportunity Montana on Google on the Internet, we would rather see Opportunity Montana come up then Opportunity pond waste repository. The name of Opportunity Ponds, gave our community bad stigma and would eventually cause our property values to depreciate. We would rather have the name represent the beautiful community that "Opportunity" has represented for 100 years. ARCO has agreed to the name change and wants to tag the name of "BP/ARCO Land management area". OCPA feels this is not a Land Management area and should be called "**BP/ARCO Waste Management Area**". EPA and the Mt Dept of environmental Quality will not agree with the name change. They have told us that the name has been on the pond area for years and changing it would cause too much paper work. Even though the EPA and DEQ have refused to change it, in real, the name has been changed and will now be something different then "Opportunity Ponds"

News from the past

BUTTE DAILY POST JUNE 11, 1914

The Anaconda Copper Mining Company has announced that its land corporation, The Deer Lodge Farms company, has placed on the market and offers for sale, five and ten acre tracts in the new community established in the Deer Lodge valley east of Anaconda.

Interesting facts in the article:

1. The land was drained 4 years prior to sale and 10 miles of 12" drain tile where placed underground to assure proper drainage for the community.
2. Purchasers may secure possession either by outright purchase or by an initial payment and the balance in 30 monthly installments, with deferred payments at 6% interest.
3. In the event of the death of the purchaser, during the term of this contract, a wife and or children will NOT be in default of contract and NO further payment will be required.
4. The east and west streets have been named after Montana Governors and the avenue running north and south will be named after territorial governors.
5. Opportunity Park, comprising 65 Acres, has been set aside in a central location, along Mill creek, as a recreational ground and center for this community. It is proposed to erect a modern public school building in the park this year. High School students will have car service to Anaconda.
6. With the electrification of Montana Union Railway and an extension of the Anaconda street railway system, car service will be established this summer between Opportunity and the smelter and the city.
7. The establishments of Saloons, roadhouses or any business or operation which shall constitute a nuisance is prohibited under the deed and contract, under penalty of forfeiture of the land.
8. Opportunity has been developed to provide homes where people of Anaconda can enjoy the benefits of country life while sharing in the activities of the industries located here. It affords the real solution to the high cost of living. Little farms with cows, pigs and chickens; gardens with vegetables, apple trees and small fruits, will supplant the city street and crowded city lot.

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Anaconda Environmental
Education Institute
"AEEI"



CFRTAC
Clark Fork River
Technical Assistance Committee

Address:

OCPA

Opportunity Citizens Protection Association
"The folks that care"

OCPA wants to keep tree's north of country club road

As you drive towards Anaconda on the Anaconda Country Club road, take a look to the North and see what you see. It is a row of beautiful trees blocking the view of the BP/ARCO waste management area. THIS is a good thing. Most would agree that the view of trees and an occasional white tail deer or two or a Moose, would be better then looking at a waste repository. OCPA is working on putting in a request to have those tree's left in place to make it look more pristine. According to Steve Ferry of ARCO, there are plans of removing the tree's and also the top soil from the pasture between the trees and the country club road to use for covering contaminated soils in the waste management area. If you would like to see baron land and a nice view of the huge pile of contaminated dirt, then ignore or plea's. But if you would like to see the area rich in wildlife and beautiful tree's, then raise your voice at the commissioners meetings or write a letter to your congressman and voice your opinion. NOW is the time to speak up because this summer there will be a lot of construction and the tree's could disappear before you can do anything about it. Please folks, lets keep our community beautiful and make it a proud place to live...