

# NPL Site Narrative for Janesville Ash Beds

## JANESVILLE ASH BEDS Janesville, Wisconsin

**Conditions at listing (September 1983):** The City of Janesville, Wisconsin, owns and operates a 5.3-acre ash filtration bed facility just west of its old landfill. The first bed was opened in April 1974. The bottom of each bed is covered with fly ash, then industrial sludges, including paint and clarifier sludges, plating wastes, and petrochemicals (during first 6 months only) are added. In theory, the sludge dries on top of the ash bed. The sludge-ash mixture is periodically cleaned out and disposed of, first at its old landfill (which closed in 1978) and later at its new landfill. From 1.5 million to 3 million gallons (7,500 to 15,000 cubic yards) of industrial sludges are accepted annually. Limited amounts of leachate are collected to monitor the facility's performance.

In February 1980, the State acted to require the city to seek a license or close the facility under the State's new hazardous waste code. In October 1982, the city constructed three clay-lined ash beds to collect leachate but must also satisfy other conditions to obtain a State interim license to continue to operate for an additional 2 years. The city has started a comprehensive investigation of soils and ground water. Preliminary results indicate both have been contaminated. All data available will be evaluated to determine if additional remedial action is necessary.

**Status (June 1984):** EPA has started a search for parties potentially responsible for wastes associated with the site.

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. ATSDR ToxFAQs can be found on the Internet at [ATSDR - ToxFAQs](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp>) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.