

# MONTANA SUCCESS STORIES CHEMICAL CLEANOUTS

Bonnie Rouse  
Environmental Specialist  
Business & Community Assistance  
Program



# BACKGROUND INFO

Fall of 2004

## Public School Chemistry Laboratories

- Inventory of School Chemicals was conducted
- Determination of Problem – MT schools have serious chemical storage issues.



# BACKGROUND CONTINUED...

- Fall of 2005 – EPA granted \$60,000 in funding to DEQ to assist schools with cleanout costs. 13 school districts requested and received partial reimbursement.

Laurel	Frenchtown	Glasgow	Missoula
Havre	Harlem	Polson	Hardin
Poplar	Absarokee	Lodge Grass	
Broadwater (Townsend)			
Powder River (Broadus)			

# CLEANOUT COSTS

- Most Expensive School to Date?  
Broadus at \$13,935
- Least Expensive School to Date?  
Townsend at \$4,078

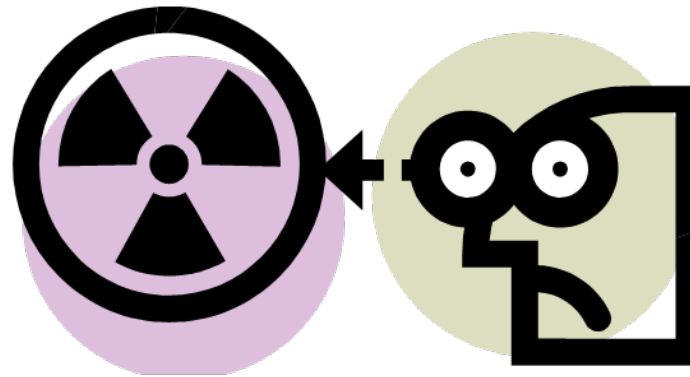
All except Broadus were less than \$9,000

# SUCCESS STORIES

## Havre Public Schools

- Total Cost \$8,785.....plus they had additional issue....

Uranium Nitrate!!!!!



# Havre Continued...

- Worked with College to dispose of the radioactive – call DEQ if you need help with this.
- DEQ accepted the elemental mercury.
- Havre developed and implemented a chemical hygiene plan.
- The high school contracted for a remodel on the chemical storage room – new ventilation, fire control, hoods, etc.

# Another Success Story - Glasgow

- First School to request funding – cleanout cost of \$6,240
  - Glasgow had an interesting unknown.....

Picric Acid



# Glasgow Continued....

- Developed and fully implemented Chemical Hygiene Program
- Developed and implemented full Environmental, Safety and Health Program for the School including Hazcom, Blood Born Pathogens, Incident/Injury Reporting and other required programs.



## DEQ Advice



- Inventory Your Chemicals and start planning for disposal of what is no longer needed or necessary. Call DEQ for assistance – we will take elemental mercury and can help coordinate with college chemistry programs to take radioactives.
- Ensure that inventory is properly segregated and stored – use the Flinn or another catalog for assistance.

# 2009 Children's Health Summit

**Save the Date!**

K-12 Schools

Daycares

Headstart and Preschools

Service Clubs

**EPA Region 8 Children's Environmental Health Summit**

**Greening Our Schools and Daycares**

August 12th-13th  
Holiday Inn Parkside  
Missoula, MT

**Agenda Topics**

- Facility Upgrades
- Indoor Air Quality
- Chemical Management
- Vehicle Emission Reductions
- Green cleaners
- Creating healthy, green spaces



# Questions?

---

Thank you!

Bonnie Rouse  
MT DEQ  
406-841-5251  
[brouse@mt.gov](mailto:brouse@mt.gov)