



Every day, Clark Seif Clark professionals are deployed across the nation helping both large and small customers resolve health & safety, industrial hygiene, environmental and indoor air quality issues.

At a moment's notice, Clark Seif Clark can send their experts anywhere they are needed. No matter if it's in response to a hurricane, wildfire, flood, tornado, or other natural disaster, Clark Seif Clark is ready to help and can respond in no time at all.

## Could Phthalates be in Your Indoor Environment?

In recent years, there has been growing concern over human exposure to a group of widely used chemicals known as phthalates. Phthalates are used in numerous products and materials to soften and increase the flexibility of plastics and vinyl.

People can be exposed to low levels of phthalates through air, water or food. Exposure to low levels of the chemicals may come from eating food packaged in plastic that contains phthalates or breathing dust in rooms with materials that contain phthalates. Children can be exposed by chewing on soft vinyl toys or other products made with the chemicals. Young children may have a greater risk of being exposed to phthalate particles in dust compared to adults due to their hand-to-mouth behaviors. People at the highest risk of exposure to phthalates are dialysis patients, hemophiliacs or people who received blood transfusions from sources that use tubing or containers made with the chemicals.

Many phthalates are suspected to be endocrine disruptors. In California, the following phthalates are listed under Proposition 65 because they are known to cause reproductive harm:

- Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP)
- Butyl benzyl phthalate (BBP)
- Di-n-butyl phthalate (DBP)
- Di-isodecyl phthalate (DIDP)
- Di-n-hexyl phthalate (DnHP)

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The environmental and indoor air quality experts at Clark Seif Clark offer testing services to identify the presence of phthalates in homes and businesses. "Phthalates are used in hundreds of products," reports Franco Seif, President of Clark Seif Clark. "They can be found in everything from personal care products to building materials and vinyl flooring. The only way to know if people are being exposed to these chemicals in an indoor environment or during work processes is to have the area tested. To help raise awareness of these chemicals, CSC has sponsored an educational video about phthalates in the home."

To view this video, click the image below:



Phthalates in the Home: What You Should Know

To learn more about phthalates, indoor air quality or other environmental, occupational health or safety issues, please visit [www.csceng.com](http://www.csceng.com), email [csc@csceng.com](mailto:csc@csceng.com) or call (800) 807-1118.

## Environmental Experts Provide Solutions for Contaminated Soils near Residential & Commercial Properties

In August of this year, the City of Los Angeles approved a plan to redevelop Jordan Downs Public Housing Community into a mixed-use development. Concerns have been raised because some of the land in the redevelop plan was used in the past for industrial and agricultural purposes.

Contaminated soil has been found in environmental studies that have shown the presence of subsurface soils that contain lead, arsenic, petroleum hydrocarbons, PCBs and naphthalene. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has been named the lead agency for the cleanup project.

This is just one example from many that highlights the potential

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**Is It Safe?**

hazards of living or working in an area with contaminated soils. Sites with contaminated soil can be found in all types of areas, from heavily congested cities like Los Angeles to rural regions across the country.

Soil contamination issues can occur when either a hazardous solid or liquid material mixes with the naturally occurring soil. Contaminants in the soil may be physically or chemically attached to soil particles or may be trapped in the small spaces between soil particles. This can occur when hazardous substances are spilled or buried directly in the soil or migrate to the soil from another location.

Most people have no idea what the land where their office or home is located was used for 20 or 50 years ago. People can be at risk if they ingest, inhale or touch soils contaminated with certain chemicals. Some contaminants can be absorbed through the skin when contact is made and others may attach to small surface soil particles that can become airborne as dust and then inhaled. Soil vapor intrusion of VOCs into structures has made headlines as potential exposure issues to building occupants.

CSC has experts who specialize in identifying and testing for a wide range of soil contaminants to determine if there is a potential problem. To help educate people about this issue, CSC recently sponsored an educational video that can be seen at:



Soil Contamination: Does it Exist Near You?

To learn more about soil contamination or other environmental, health and safety issues, please visit [www.csceng.com](http://www.csceng.com), email [csc@csceng.com](mailto:csc@csceng.com) or call (800) 807-1118.

**About Clark Seif Clark:** CSC was established in 1989 to help clients in both the public and private sectors address environmental issues. CSC is a leading provider of these services with multiple offices along the western seaboard and southwest. The company believes in science-based protocols and has a strong background in engineering making them the preferred environmental consultants to

healthcare facilities, architects, schools, builders, contractors,  
developers and real estate professionals.