

Rocky Flats WebQuest

Name _____

Date _____ Period _____

Go to this web address: <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/rf/bluesumm.htm#Project%20Overview>

From the index click on **What is the History of Rocky Flats:**

1. What was Rocky Flats (what was manufactured there?): _____
2. When did Rocky Flats stop production? _____ When did clean up begin? _____
3. Workers used _____ to build the "pits". What is plutonium and how long can it remain in the environment after release? _____

4. Why were early operations at Rocky Flats kept secret from the public? _____

5. What happened that eventually raised public awareness of the illegal storage and disposal of hazardous waste at Rocky Flats? _____

Click on **Back to Index** and click on **Project Overview**

6. Give a brief summary of the purpose of the **Rocky Flats Historical Public Exposures Studies**. _____

7. In the Key Findings what are the two main pollutants and their use that have been the major concern?
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
8. In the Key Findings, the accidental release in _____ of the radioactive chemical _____ from Rocky Flats in 1973 to _____ was the greatest source of _____, but presented a small off-site health risk.

Scroll back up to the index and click the link to **Purpose of These Studies**

9. What were the objectives of the studies?
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____

Click **Back to Index** and click the link to **What Geographic Area Was Studied**

10. Are Arapahoe High School and your home located within the area of study? What does this tell you about the ability of contaminants to spread off site? _____

Click **Back to Index** and click the link to **How People Were Exposed**.

11. How were people exposed? _____

12. Because it is not feasible to determine the risk to each individual, researchers developed "exposure scenarios" representing people who may have lived or worked near the plant and who would have been exposed to releases from Rocky Flats. These "exposure scenarios" considered:

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

Click **Back to Index** and go to the link **Key Questions Addressed by the Research**

13. Carbon tetrachloride releases were found to be the most significant of the plant's chemical releases in terms of _____

14. It is estimated that 1,100 to 5,400 tons were released from the plant between _____.

15. Carbon tetrachloride was released to surface water, but likely _____ before it reached public water supplies.

Click **Back to Index** and go to the link **Risk Estimates**, Click on Chart depicting Cancer Risk to Laborer from all Rocky Flats Plutonium Releases 1953 through 1989.

16. What town has the greatest risk to carbon tetrachloride? _____

17. What is the approximate median exposure rate to that town? _____

18. What group is the graph depicting cancer risk for? _____

Use the back button to return to the Index, go to **Key Findings Related to Health Risks** click on the last graph that depicts Lifetime Cancer Risk for the Laborer, Carbon Tetrachloride Releases.

19. Are Arapahoe High School and your home located within the contamination plume? _____

20. What color represents the least risk? _____