



Collier Heights Dumping **February 16, 2008**

The Georgia Division of Public Health (GDPH) received a letter from a Fulton County resident dated February 1, 2008. In her letter, she stated that three individuals who have lived in her home died of mysterious diseases and/or rare forms of cancer, including rhabdomyosarcoma. She also stated that the Fulton County Health Department staff came to her house to investigate mold in her home, but did not enter her basement for lack of proper "protective gear". She requested an inquiry into what she believes to be "illegal dumping" that has taken place in her community for many years.

In order to conduct an investigation into whether there may be a correlation between the resident's house and occurrences of deaths in her home, more information would be required.

Because of the resident's concern that one of the individuals living in her home died from rhabdomyosarcoma, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) requested that the GDPH Cancer Control Section analyze the cancer

statistics in her neighborhood to determine if there are an elevated number of cases of this type of cancer, as well as all other types of cancer. The results of those analyses were emailed to the resident on February 28, 2008.

ATSDR spoke with the Fulton County Department of Health and Wellness about their visit to her home regarding mold concerns in February 2006. Severe structural and other damage to her home was noted. The inspectors did enter her basement and reported that half of the basement was flooded. Flooding was the apparent reason for the mold in her home. At the time, Fulton County advised the resident to renovate her house.

Regarding illegal dumping in her neighborhood, the resident was asked her to contact the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GEPD) to investigate those concerns. The Community Involvement Coordinator with the GEPD Hazardous Waste Management Branch, can assist her with this matter.