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| **Environmental Enlightenment #98** By Ami Adini - Reissued March 8, 2017   |  | | --- | | This is a SHORT, LIGHT and SIMPLE newsletter. Its purpose is to rekindle in the initiated concepts they have once learned, and enlighten the uninitiated on concepts they may have never heard of, but will understand once they are introduced to them. | | **Environmental Investigations in Dry Cleaning Operations  Contaminant Source Areas - Where to Sample III**  *(The information in this newsletter has been gleaned from an EPA sponsored site*[*http://www.drycleancoalition.org*](https://drycleancoalition.org/)*and enhanced with images.)*   *This info-letter is one of a series on drycleaning operations, their impact on the environment and hurdles they pose in real estate transactions. Search* [here](http://www.amiadini.com/newsletter-archive.html) *for more.*  **Sanitary Sewer - Septic Tank/Drainfield**  The sanitary sewer and septic tank/drainfield have historically been popular disposal points for contact water. Some older drycleaning machine service manuals even prescribed discharging contact water to drains.  http://amiadini.com/NewsletterArchive/170308-NL98/envEnl-098-001.jpg  Sewer lines in urban areas can be constructed from a wide variety of materials. Within a city, many different kinds of sewer piping may be utilized depending on the time period the sewer lines were installed. Older sewer lines are made of cast iron and vitrified clay and newer lines have been constructed from concrete or more recently thermoplastic.  http://amiadini.com/NewsletterArchive/170308-NL98/envEnl-098-002.jpg  Manholes were typically constructed of brick/mortar and concrete.   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://amiadini.com/NewsletterArchive/170308-NL98/envEnl-098-005.jpg | http://amiadini.com/NewsletterArchive/170308-NL98/envEnl-098-007.jpg |   Early sewer line joints were sealed with mortar and bituminous compounds. Neither of these materials is watertight and subsequent settling and cracking have provided pathways for contaminant migration.  Many local sewer authorities specify permissible leakage rates for newly-constructed sewer lines “of approximately 500 gallons per inch diameter per day per mile.”   |  |  | | --- | --- | | http://amiadini.com/NewsletterArchive/170308-NL98/envEnl-098-009.jpg | http://amiadini.com/NewsletterArchive/170308-NL98/envEnl-098-011.jpg |   Contact water, free-phase solvent and solvent vapors can leak from sewer lines through cracks, joints or breaks. Contact water and free-phase solvent can also leach through sewer piping.  The more modern PVC-made sewer piping materials are not compatible with dry-cleaning solvents. There's ample evidence of PVC sewer piping being corroded and deformed by the action of dry-cleaning solvents.  Soil-gas sampling along sewer lines can be used to delineate contamination associated with leaking sewer lines.  *(The information in this newsletter has been gleaned from an EPA sponsored  site*[*http://www.drycleancoalition.org*](http://www.drycleancoalition.org/)*and enhanced with pictures obtained from the Web.)* | | You can find past issues of our "Environmental Enlightenment" at [amiadini.com](http://www.amiadini.com/) Wealth of information about environmental site assessments in the real estate transactions and issues concerning assessment and cleanup of contamination in the subsurface soil and groundwater. |  |  | | --- | | Call me if you have any questions. There are **no obligations.**  Ami Adini Environmental Services, Inc. Environmental Consultants & General Engineering Contractors California Lic. #1009513 A B HAZ ASB **818-824-8102**; [**mail@amiadini.com**](mailto:mail@amiadini.com) [www.amiadini.com](http://amiadini.com/)  Ami Adini is a veteran environmental practitioner with over 40 years of experience. He carries a Bachelor of Science degree (B.Sc.) in Mechanical Engineering including academic credits in Nuclear and Chemical Engineering and postgraduate education in these fields. His career includes design and construction of nuclear plant facilities, chemical processing plants and hazardous wastewater treatment systems. He is a former California Registered Environmental Assessor Levels I & II in the 1988-2012 registry that certified environmental professionals in the assessment and remediation of environmentally impacted land, and a Registered Environmental Professional (REP) since 1989 with the National Registry of Environmental Professionals (NREP). He is a California Business & Professions Code Qualifying Responsible Managing Officer (RMO) in the General Engineering Contractor classification with Hazardous Substance Removal and Asbestos certifications, and president of AMI ADINI ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC. (AAES), a general engineering contractor and consulting firm specializing in environmental site assessments, rehabilitation of contaminated sites and removal of environmental risks from real-estate transactions. (Contact Ami for a complete resume.) **AAES provides practical solutions to environmental concerns using the highest standards of ethics and integrity while providing its clients with maximum return on their investments.** | |