2026 RECA EXPANSION
MEDIA TOOLKIT

Community Voices, Expert Sources, Approved Quotes & Image Gallery

Inside this toolkit:

Interview contacts • Approved quotes • Community testimonials • Expert perspectives • Health and scientific information • Supporting data • Research links • Maps • Documentaries • Publication-ready images

Communities and issues represented include:

Rocky Flats • Cotter Uranium Mill • Nuclear testing fallout • Manhattan Project and nuclear weapons sites • Uranium workers • Downwind communities • Multigenerational health impacts

FOR REPORTERS

Quickly find credible sources, compelling personal stories, supporting resources, and powerful visuals to help develop timely, accurate, and impactful coverage.

SaveRECA.org

Compiled from community-provided statements, approved quotes, media contact information, publicly available resources, and contributed images.

Find a Source

Use the links below to jump directly to a state, community, or source perspective.

COLORADO
Colorado media sources at a glance
Rocky Flats - community & downwinders
Health, science & research
Cotter Mill / Cañon City

NATIONAL COMMUNITIES
Arizona
Guam
Idaho
Missouri
Nevada
Ohio
Utah
Washington

FIND A SOURCE BY PERSPECTIVE
Community advocates
Downwinders & affected families
Scientists / medical professionals
Nuclear workers & worker families
Atomic veterans
Manhattan Project / nuclear waste communities

REPORTER RESOURCES
Cancer & health stories

IMAGE GALLERY | DOCUMENTARIES
Rocky Flats Image Gallery
Cotter Mill / Cañon City Image Gallery

Documentaries

How to use this guide

Each source profile includes location, direct media contact information, a quick "best for" line, and the full approved quote supplied for this media resource.

Colorado Media Sources at a Glance

A quick starting point for reporters covering the Colorado provisions highlighted in the accompanying release.

Source	Perspective	Best for
Tiffany Hansen	Community Advocate | Rocky Flats Downwinder	Rocky Flats history, downwind communities, RECA expansion
Jeri L. Fry	Community Advocate | Cotter Mill / Lincoln Park	Cotter uranium mill, Lincoln Park, Superfund history, community health impacts
Chris Allred	Community Advocate | Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center	Rocky Flats, Nuclear Guardianship, Economic Justice, Global Peace, Social Justice
Deborah L. Segaloff, Ph.D.	Biomedical Scientist | Public Health Perspective	Ionizing radiation, cancer risk, scientific perspective on Colorado inclusion
Michael E. Ketterer	Scientific / Technical Perspective | Rocky Flats Downwinder	Fallout, contamination, Rocky Flats, Cotter Mill, Nevada Test Site fallout
Brittany Kelley	Community Research Advocate | Cancer Mapping	Young breast cancer reports, geographic case patterns, research needs
Jeff Gipe	Filmmaker | Worker Family	Rocky Flats workers, site history, documentary perspective
Dr. Rosia Parrish	Medical Professional | Second-Generation Downwinder	Health impacts, patient perspective, multigenerational exposure

Primary Colorado media contacts named in the accompanying press release

Tiffany Hansen (RFD) - tiffany@rockyflatsdownwinders.com - (303) 681-1364

Jeri Fry (CCAT) - jerilfry@gmail.com - (719) 431-3160

Chris Allred (RMPJC) - chris@rmpjc.org - (719) 440-3069

Dr. Deborah Segaloff (PSR Colorado) - deborah-segaloff@uiowa.edu - (319) 530-1016 Dr.

Michael Ketterer - michael.e.ketterer@gmail.com - (928) 853-7188

Continue to full Colorado source profiles

Colorado Source Profiles

Rocky Flats - Community & Downwinder Voices

Tiffany Hansen

Director of Rocky Flats Downwinders

Location: Arvada, Colorado

Media contact: 303-681-1364 | tiffany@rockyflatsdownwinders.com

Source type: Community Advocate | Rocky Flats Downwinder

Best for: Rocky Flats history, downwind communities, RECA expansion

APPROVED QUOTE

> "This legislation represents years of advocacy by survivors, impacted families, scientists, healthcare professionals, and community organizations who refused to let these stories be forgotten," said Tiffany Hansen, co-founder of Rocky Flats Downwinders. "While no law can undo the suffering experienced by so many families, this expansion acknowledges that more Coloradoans deserve recognition and assistance."

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Stephanie Dalton

Rocky Flats Downwinder

Location: Parker, Colorado; exposed in Arvada, Colorado Media

contact: 714-809-2295

Source type: Affected Family | Rocky Flats Downwinder

Best for: Family cancer history, Arvada exposure, community impacts

APPROVED QUOTE

> “I am a Rocky Flats downwinder who lived in Arvada, Colorado, from 1977 to 1991. I am currently being monitored for thyroid cancer, and both of my sisters have had thyroid cancer.
>
> In the past seven years alone, my father passed away from oligodendroglioma brain cancer; my sister was diagnosed with astrocytoma brain cancer; one uncle and my brother-in-law passed away from prostate cancer; and another uncle passed away from kidney cancer. My sister’s brain cancer is inoperable because it is intertwined throughout four of the five lobes of her brain. MD Anderson tested my father’s brain tumor and determined that it was environmental rather than hereditary. My sister’s tumor cannot be tested because it cannot be safely removed.
>
> Five members of our family have also experienced multiple thyroid nodules and various autoimmune diseases. Beyond my family, friends from the same area have also suffered from cancer.
>
> Including Rocky Flats communities in an expanded RECA bill is deeply important to those of us who have suffered—and who will continue to live with the consequences for years to come. Compensation can never undo the loss and pain we have endured, but recognition and support would bring a measure of long-overdue justice.”

Back to Find a Source

Shaunessy Kieng, RN, MPH

Member of Rocky Flats Downwinders

Location: Currently Boston, Massachusetts; formerly Arvada, Colorado Media

contact: 303-847-5865

Source type: Nurse | Affected Family | Rocky Flats Downwinder

Best for: Rare cancer, family impact, Arvada neighborhood experience

APPROVED QUOTE

> “I currently live in Boston, MA, but lived in Arvada, CO, downwind of Rocky Flats for many years. My father was diagnosed at age 55 with a very rare cancer, Cardiac Angiosarcoma, and fought it for 13 months before he passed. In our same neighborhood, an elementary-aged boy was diagnosed around the same time as my father. Since that time, I have met numerous neighbors and friends downwind of Rocky Flats who have and are experiencing horrible illnesses and loss. It's essential that RECA includes downwinders from Rocky Flats, as there are so many who have suffered and are left without any justice or help. This bill won't bring our family members back, but it will begin to aid the families of those who have been affected by these horrible atrocities.”

Back to Find a Source

Elaine McNeely

Rocky Flats Community / Affected Family

Location: Morrison, Colorado; formerly Arvada, Colorado Media

contact: 720-212-7453

Source type: Affected Family | Rocky Flats Community

Best for: Cardiac angiosarcoma, family loss, neighborhood experience

APPROVED QUOTE

> “I lived in Arvada, CO in the Rocky Flats area for several years. My husband, who was in great health all his life, was diagnosed with a very rare and horrible cancer in 2013. It was so rare it took a period of time to diagnose it. He lived with Cardiac Angiosarcoma for only 13 months before it took his life. It is a very rare cancer, and it was very odd that an 11-year-old boy in our neighborhood had the same cancer at the same time. My husband suffered tremendously during this year. He was only 57 when he passed away. Many neighbors around us in the Rocky Flats area had devastating and rare illnesses too. We have all suffered so much without any justice or help. It is very important that RECA hears about us in Arvada and gives us some justice.”

Back to Find a Source

Amber Denzel

Rocky Flats Downwinder

Location: Golden/Arvada, Colorado (1981-1991)

Media contact: 970-590-4441 | Amber.Denzel@gmail.com

Source type: Affected Family | Cancer Survivor | Rocky Flats Downwinder Best for: Breast cancer, family cancer history, research and recognition

APPROVED QUOTE

> “My family has lived through the kind of heartbreak no family should have to endure. My mother, my sister, and I were all diagnosed with breast cancer within the same year; another sister lost her life to breast cancer, and none of us carried the BRCA gene. My surviving sister has since battled bladder cancer, endured a double mastectomy, lost her bladder, lives with an Indiana pouch, and is now on dialysis awaiting a kidney transplant. We may never know exactly why so many people in our family and neighborhoods became sick, but we do know what cancer has taken from us. Expanding the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act is about more than compensation - it is about recognizing families whose lives have been forever changed, committing to the research needed to find answers, and ensuring that

the voices of Rocky Flats Downwinders are finally heard with the dignity, compassion, and justice they deserve. Recognition through RECA won't change our past, but it can change how our government responds to families like ours."

Back to Find a Source

Jeff Gipe

Director, Half Life of Memory: America's Forgotten Atomic Bomb Factory; son of impacted Rocky Flats worker

Location: Arvada, Colorado Media

contact: 303-906-1456

Source type: Filmmaker | Worker Family

Best for: Rocky Flats workers, site history, documentary perspective

APPROVED QUOTE

"For decades, the voices of Rocky Flats workers and downwind communities have fallen on deaf ears. Through the making of a documentary about the site, I have met countless individuals whose lives and families have been profoundly affected by its legacy. Their experiences are a powerful reminder of why this bill matters: to acknowledge those who have borne the costs of the nuclear weapons complex, provide long-overdue support, and help ensure these injustices are never forgotten or repeated."

Back to Find a Source

Health, Science & Research

Deborah L. Segaloff, Ph.D.

Biomedical Research Scientist; Physicians for Social Responsibility Colorado

Location: Niwot, Colorado

Media contact: 319-530-1016 | deborah-segaloff@uiowa.edu Source type:

Biomedical Scientist | Public Health Perspective

Best for: Ionizing radiation, cancer risk, scientific perspective on Colorado inclusion

APPROVED QUOTE

"Currently a resident of Boulder County in Colorado, I am a PhD biomedical research scientist who, prior to retirement, was a medical school Professor and member of our medical center's cancer center. It should be noted that I worked with radioactive substances all my scientific career. However, this was done following strict state and federal safety guidelines and, therefore, my exposure to ionizing radiation was very limited. In contrast, sadly many in Colorado have been exposed to significant sources of ionizing radiation that have increased their risks of developing cancer. The Radiation Exposure Compensation Reauthorization Act of 2026 is a long overdue step to, at the very least, include Colorado as a Nevada Test Site downwind state, include Rocky Flats as a Manhattan Project Waste Site, and Cotter Mill as a Manhattan Project Waste Site."

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Michael E. Ketterer

Rocky Flats Downwinder (1980-1993)

Location: Colorado / Rocky Flats

Media contact: 928-853-7188 | michael.e.ketterer@gmail.com

Source type: Scientific / Technical Perspective | Rocky Flats Downwinder

Best for: Fallout, contamination, Rocky Flats, Cotter Mill, Nevada Test Site fallout

APPROVED QUOTE

> "Coloradans have finally received recognition and atonement for offsite contamination at Rocky Flats and the former Cotter Mill in Cañon City. This legislation now also recognizes and the substantial Nevada test site fallout deposited in Colorado from 1951 to 1962. These locations became contaminated as a result of routine operations and planned weapons tests; populations were exposed without warning or consent. The resulting contamination scenarios are permanent in human terms; today we take a positive step forward in acknowledging our nuclear legacy."

Back to Find a Source

Dr. Rosia Parrish

Naturopathic Doctor; Second-Generation Rocky Flats Downwinder

Location: Lafayette, Colorado; exposed in Lakewood, Louisville, Lafayette, and Boulder Media

contact: 720-404-6280

Source type: Medical Professional | Second-Generation Downwinder Best for:

Health impacts, patient perspective, multigenerational exposure APPROVED

QUOTE

> "I am a second-generation downwinder and a naturopathic doctor. My mom moved to Colorado in 1978, lived near Rocky Flats, developed stage IV colorectal cancer, and died in 2017. I grew up in the Rocky Flats community and spent my childhood sailing and swimming at Stanley Lake. I still remember my sailing instructors telling us there was plutonium in the lake, and that has stayed with me my entire life. Plutonium-239 has a half-life of more than 24,000 years. I was diagnosed with breast cancer at 42 and remain in long-term treatment, with several more surgeries ahead of me. As a doctor, I have cared for patients with cancer, infertility, autoimmune disease, thyroid disease, and other chronic illnesses that have affected so many families in this community. Expanding RECA would acknowledge the generations of families impacted by nuclear weapons production and provide long-overdue support to the people who have carried this burden for decades."

Back to Find a Source

Brittany Kelley

Founder, Young Breast Cancer Colorado Mapping Project (est. 2019)

Location: Colorado

Media contact: 720-295-0350 | youngbcinco@gmail.com Source type:

Community Research Advocate | Cancer Mapping

Best for: Young breast cancer reports, geographic case patterns, research needs

APPROVED QUOTE

> "My involvement in RECA advocacy began with a deeply personal search for answers. I was diagnosed with triple-negative breast cancer at age 34, years after my younger sister was diagnosed with breast cancer at only 25. With no known hereditary genetic mutations or significant family history to explain our diagnoses, I began documenting similar experiences reported by young women across Colorado.

Since 2019, more than 220 women have voluntarily shared their diagnoses through the Young Breast Cancer Colorado Mapping Project.

As submissions accumulated, striking geographic patterns emerged. Many reported cases are concentrated within specific ZIP codes, neighborhoods, streets and, in some instances, individual cul-de-sacs. Several communities downwind from the former Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant show dense concentrations of reports. These community-reported patterns do not prove causation or establish a cancer cluster, but they raise serious questions that deserve rigorous, independent scientific investigation.

Every point on our maps represents a woman, a family and a life permanently changed by cancer. Colorado communities should not have to crowdsource the search for answers about their health. I urge Congress to meaningfully consider potentially affected Colorado residents in RECA legislation and to support transparent epidemiological and environmental research. Whether these patterns ultimately prove related or coincidental, families deserve answers grounded in science - and a government willing to investigate, acknowledge and act."

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Cotter Mill / Cañon City

Jeri L. Fry

Founding Director and Co-Chair, Colorado Citizens Against ToxicWaste, Inc. (est. 2002)

Location: Cañon City, Colorado

Media contact: 719-431-3160 | jerilfry@gmail.com

Source type: Community Advocate | Cotter Mill / Lincoln Park

Best for: Cotter uranium mill, Lincoln Park, Superfund history, community health impacts

APPROVED QUOTE

"Many in my family and community are impacted by the Cotter uranium processing mill that brought in Manhattan Waste and quietly poisoned domestic wells, air and soil in the Lincoln Park area of Cañon City, CO. This means breast cancers, non-Hodgkins's lymphoma, bone cancer, brain cancer, autoimmune diseases, thyroid, kidney disease, rare birth defects, scleroderma, miscarriages the list goes on. Justice delayed is justice denied; my community still lives in this active Lincoln Park/Cotter Superfund Site which is 43-years old now and still not cleaned up.

The U.S. Government made mistakes between 1944 and 1974 on its pell-mell run for nuclear supremacy. The Radiation Exposure Compensation Act of 1990 confronted the mistakes, took responsibility and took action for 34 years; then crumbled in 2024. Sadly, politics was played with this important foundational legislation and though reinstated, RECA is set to crumble again at the end of 2027.

This new RECA expansion bill drafted by Rep. James Moylan is a sincere underpinning of our nation's original intent to hold humanity and moral accountability in higher esteem than we do the latest development in nuclear technology. It reaffirms the U.S. responsibility for the sins of past nuclear decisions and expands that accountability to ensure the U.S. will always keep our ethical watch-light burning to protect human health and the environment. Nuclear development will keep happening and unintended exposure to people is a cost that is generational and must be seriously factored in.

Congress will demonstrate that our government can be faithful to its original word of apology and to the People's values by passing this new RECA expansion Bill. We MUST be able to rely upon our federal

government to keep its word, to tell the truth and to do the right thing. May Congress never again stray from the values of protecting our People and being straight with us."

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National Community Voices

Community contacts and approved quotes from additional states and territories represented in this media resource.

ARIZONA

Sherrie Hanna

Arizona Downwinder Advocate

Location: Arizona

Media contact: 928-533-2925

Source type: Downwinder Advocate | Affected Family

Best for: Northern Arizona fallout, family cancer history, statewide inclusion

APPROVED QUOTE

"I am a Downwinder, having been raised in Northern Arizona during the time frame of the nuclear testing. I was exposed to the contamination fallout from the nuclear testing. My father and husband, both Downwinders, passed away after long, painful battles with cancers covered under RECA. I have spent decades advocating for RECA to be expanded to communities that were exposed, including the whole State of Arizona, which was unfairly cut out of the 2025 RECA Expansion. I am thrilled to see it be included again in Representative Moylan's RECA Expansion Bill."

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GUAM

Robert N. Celestial

Sgt., U.S. Army (retired), Atomic Veteran; President, Pacific Association for Radiation Survivors Guam, USA Downwinders

Location: Guam

Media contact: 671-688-7277

Source type: Atomic Veteran | Guam Downwinder

Best for: Enewetak Atoll, Guam fallout, atomic veterans, RECA inclusion

APPROVED QUOTE

"I was assigned to Enewetak Atoll in 1977, where 42 nuclear bombs and the first Hydrogen bomb were detonated. My comrades who served with me are either sick, dying, or have died from our exposure to Plutonium, Strontium 90, and Cesium 137!

A total of 67 Nuclear detonations were conducted from 1946 to 1962, and for decades, the nuclear fallout fell on my island and my people of Guam. This was kept secret due to national security while the people of Guam were exposed to ionizing radiation, unknowingly suffering and dying from Cancer and other

diseases until it was declassified in 1994. I presented evidence before the Board of Radiation Effects Research Committee in 2004 in Washington, DC. The committee of scientists concluded that the residents of Guam were exposed to measurable nuclear fallout and should be included in RECA as Downwinders. Guam was in two Senate bills in 2023 and 2024 that passed the Senate, but later Guam was excluded from the Big Beautiful Bill because the committee did not understand that we, the people of Guam, are U.S. citizens. Other stateside jurisdictions were also affected and weren't included in the 2025 RECA amendments; they, too, should be recognized, compensated, and included in our 2026 RECA bill introduced by Congressman Moylan from Guam."

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IDAHO

Tona Henderson

Director of Idaho Downwinders

Location: Idaho

Media contact: 208-365-2669

Source type: Community Advocate | Downwinder

Best for: Idaho downwinders, RECA gaps, national inclusion

APPROVED QUOTE

"Idaho Downwinders are thankful to be included in RECA, but the existing RECA program is far from complete. These other people, places, and provisions need to be included to help Downwinders who were deliberately targeted by our government!"

Back to Find a Source

MISSOURI

Dawn Chapman

Co-Founder, Just Moms STL

Location: St. Louis, Missouri Media

contact: 314-566-9762

Source type: Community Advocate | Manhattan Project Waste

Best for: Missouri RECA implementation, affected ZIP codes, coalition advocacy

APPROVED QUOTE

"As one of the states newly added to the expanded Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) signed into law last year, we have witnessed firsthand the profound, positive impact this inclusion has brought to Missouri's 21 affected ZIP codes. While we celebrate this one-year anniversary, we also renew our commitment to the remaining Missouri ZIP codes and overlooked communities nationwide that are still fighting for inclusion in this life-saving legislation. The true strength of our coalition lies in the deep, familial bonds we share and the heartbreaking personal stories we carry. We stand fully prepared and committed to helping other communities achieve the long-overdue justice they deserve by finally being included in RECA."

Back to Find a Source

Ben Phillips

President, PHACTS (Pruitt-Igoe Historical Accounting Compensation and Truth Seeking)

Location: St. Louis, Missouri Media

contact: 314-606-8759

Source type: Community Advocate | Manhattan Project Production

Best for: St. Louis city ZIP codes, Mallinckrodt, atomic materials processing

APPROVED QUOTE

> "We, the residents of the deeply impacted zip codes that are now recognized in Rep. Moylan's new legislation, wholeheartedly support this just improvement to the RECA Bill, and ask that it be passed by both houses of Congress as soon as possible.
>
> The St. Louis city zip codes should have been included in RECA because and only because St. Louis city was the ground zero production zone for Mallinckrodt's atomic bomb materials processing."

Back to Find a Source

Kim Visintine

Founder, Coldwater Creek - Just the Facts

Location: Clarkston, Michigan; hometown Florissant, Missouri Media

contact: 248-207-0206

Source type: Affected Family | Community Advocate

Best for: Coldwater Creek, Manhattan Project waste, family health impacts

APPROVED QUOTE

> "I grew up playing in Coldwater Creek. My son was born with a rare radiation-linked brain tumor and passed away at the age of 6, from my chronic exposure. After losing many loved ones and close friends, I helped start the Coldwater Creek Group in 2011 to facilitate awareness and cleanup activities of the Manhattan Project Waste that was left behind in our community. It took more than 14 years of fighting for us to be included in RECA, and our community is incredibly grateful. But there are so many impacted residents and areas within Missouri that have yet to file or be included in legislation. Our group supports this bill completely and looks forward to how many more impacted individuals that it can help in the future."

Back to Find a Source

Christen Commuso

Policy Specialist, Missouri Coalition for the Environment; Impacted Community Member

Location: Missouri

Media contact: 314-299-1432

Source type: Policy Advocate | Impacted Community Member

Best for: RECA administration, eligibility gaps, Missouri communities

APPROVED QUOTE

> "We are grateful that Congress expanded RECA last year to cover areas in Missouri. Since then, we have identified additional impacted communities in our state and found inconsistencies in how RECA is administered, including disparities in eligibility for families filing claims on behalf of their deceased children and for individuals with leukemia. This new legislation presents an opportunity to address these

issues, ensure every affected community is recognized, create a fairer and more consistent program nationwide, and fulfill RECA's promise to those harmed by our country's nuclear weapons legacy. We will not stop until all of our 'nuclear' families are covered and compensated."

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NEVADA

Linda Chase

Nevada Downwinder

Location: Formerly Clark County, Nevada; now Santa Barbara, California Media

contact: 818-269-8482

Source type: Downwinder | Affected Family

Best for: Nevada Test Site, Clark County exclusion, family cancer experience

APPROVED QUOTE

"I am very grateful to Rep. Moylan for introducing comprehensive RECA legislation. From its inception in 1990, RECA has excluded areas that were exposed to radiation from nuclear testing. I grew up in Clark County, Nevada, only 70 miles from the Nevada Test Site. We could see the bomb from our front yard. Like many downwinders, my family suffered from repeated exposure to radiation from 100 atmospheric tests. My father died of bladder cancer. I recently learned that I have cancer. Yet under current RECA provisions, my family is not eligible for compensation, as nearly all of Clark County is excluded. With Rep. Moylan's legislation, the victims of radiation exposure in Clark County, along with others from Missouri to Alaska to Guam, will finally receive a measure of justice. Moreover, the government will finally acknowledge the sacrifices of these citizens for the U.S. Cold War effort."

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OHIO

Vina Colley

President/Director, Portsmouth Piketon Residents for Environmental Safety and Security (PRESS); National Nuclear Workers for Justice (NNWJ)

Location: Piketon, Ohio Media

contact: 740-357-8916

Source type: Worker Advocate | Community Advocate

Best for: Portsmouth workers, plutonium operations, EEOICPA and RECA

APPROVED QUOTE

"As a representative of PRESS who helped secure the original EEOICPA bill for Portsmouth workers, we are calling for this RECA reauthorization to finally address the classified, undiluted plutonium operations that occurred from 1953 to 1985 and remain hidden from the public today. We also want to include a direct message: Thank you, Senator Sherrod Brown, for getting this fight for justice started long ago and for continuing to stand by our workers, and last but certainly not least, Congressman James Moylan for drafting a new comprehensive RECA expansion bill."

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Emily Stone

Affected Worker Family

Location: West Portsmouth, Ohio; father worked at PORTS in Piketon Media

contact: 740-352-6449

Source type: Worker Family | Community Member

Best for: Southern Ohio illness concerns, family impact, Portsmouth site

APPROVED QUOTE

> “While RECA expansion is moving forward nationally, southern Ohio is continuously being left in the dark. The cancer rates in Pike and Scioto Counties are some of the highest in the country, yet we continue to be told that everything is fine. We are not asking for a free handout. Through no fault of our own, we have paid - and continue to pay - the ultimate price. Almost every single member of my family has had cancer or a rare illness/disease. If I can talk to community members and accurately guess where they live based on their family's medical history, then those with more education than me should easily see these same illness clusters. We are begging for help, and we are tired of being ignored. Our lives matter too!”

Back to Find a Source

Gina Doyle

Community Member; Administrator, Don't Dump on Us

Location: Piketon, Ohio; exposure at Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PORTS) Media

contact: 740-935-9776

Source type: Community Advocate | Portsmouth Site

Best for: Piketon community, PORTS exposure concerns, community testimony

APPROVED QUOTE

> “I am a community member from Piketon, Ohio, impacted by decades of nuclear weapons production and uranium enrichment activities at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant. My community has lived with the consequences of these activities, including contamination concerns and the heartbreaking loss of loved ones and neighbors to cancers and other serious illnesses.
>
> I support this bill because families and communities impacted by the nuclear weapons complex deserve recognition, medical support, and justice. Expanding RECA would help provide assistance to those who have suffered from exposure and ensure that the people who carried the burden of our nation's nuclear history are not forgotten.
>
> As Adm. Of Don't Dump on Us I have heard so many stories from the Cancer Victims here over the past 7 years. My goal has always been to get their voices heard. We have held interviews with Duane Pohlman of local channel 12, as well as a very important televised Town Hall meeting in Piketon. The people here have suffered and waited for far too long for the Government to listen and help them to be compensated for their illnesses. Thank you for giving me and our community the chance to speak up on such an important issue.”

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UTAH

Steve Erickson

Downwinders, Inc. Location:

Salt Lake City, Utah Media

contact: 801-554-9029

Source type: Community Advocate | Downwinder

Best for: Cold War casualties, nuclear testing and production, compensation

APPROVED QUOTE

> “Recognizing and compensating all casualties of the Cold War caused by U.S. production and testing of nuclear weapons is long overdue. Enacting this bill will bring us closer to justice for all who were harmed.”

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WASHINGTON

Trisha Pritikin

Hanford Downwinder

Location: Berkeley, California; born and raised in Richland, Washington Media

contact: 510-710-6993

Source type: Hanford Downwinder | Affected Family

Best for: Hanford plutonium production, radioactive iodine, health impacts

APPROVED QUOTE

> “The Hanford site in Washington state manufactured the plutonium for the Trinity Test on July 16, 1945, and for Fat Man, the atomic bomb that decimated Nagasaki on August 9, 1945. Hanford was the primary plutonium production site for the Manhattan Project and Cold War nuclear weapons production, providing plutonium for atomic and thermonuclear tests conducted by the United States.
>
> I have autoimmune thyroiditis as the result of childhood exposure to radioactive iodine released from Hanford's exhaust stacks. After precancerous cells were detected on my thyroid, I underwent a thyroidectomy, causing loss of all but one of my parathyroid glands. I now have refractory hypoparathyroidism with severe bone and joint pain, as well as tetany. I am at risk for renal failure, seizures, kidney stones, and cardiac complications. My mother died from malignant melanoma following exposure to Hanford's fallout.
>
> Earlier versions of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act left out Hanford and a number of other communities impacted by fallout from atomic weapons production, testing, and waste sites. Rep. Moylan's bipartisan bill to expand radiation compensation to these overlooked communities brings long overdue justice and recognition of our suffering and loss.
>
> Thank you, Rep. Moylan.”

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Reporter Resources

Additional links referenced in the source materials:

- SaveRECA.org
- https://rockyflatsdownwinders.com/
- https://www.psrcolorado.org/
- https://www.rmpjc.org/
- https://www.ccatoxicwaste.org/
- fb.com/youngbcinco
- Full Written And Video Statement, Press Release, And Mapped Young Breast Cancer Cases
- Rocky Flats Downwinders Metropolitan State Integrative Health Department 's Health Survey Preliminary Findings

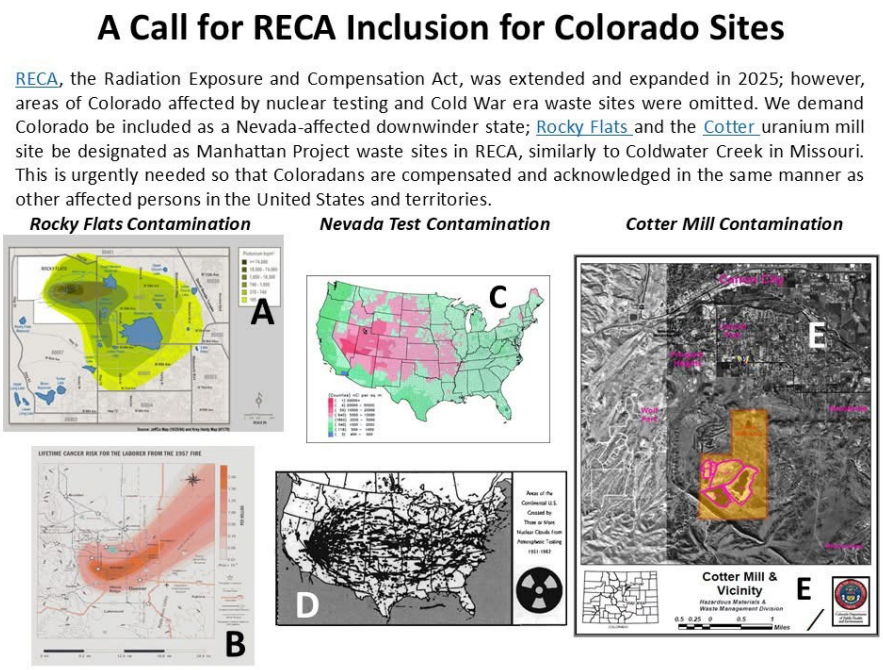
STUDIES

- Young Breast Cancer Colorado Mapping Project - Facebook
- Ketterer Air Filtration Measurements, April 2024
- Rocky Flats Downwinders Metropolitan State Integrative Health Department 's Health Survey Preliminary Findings

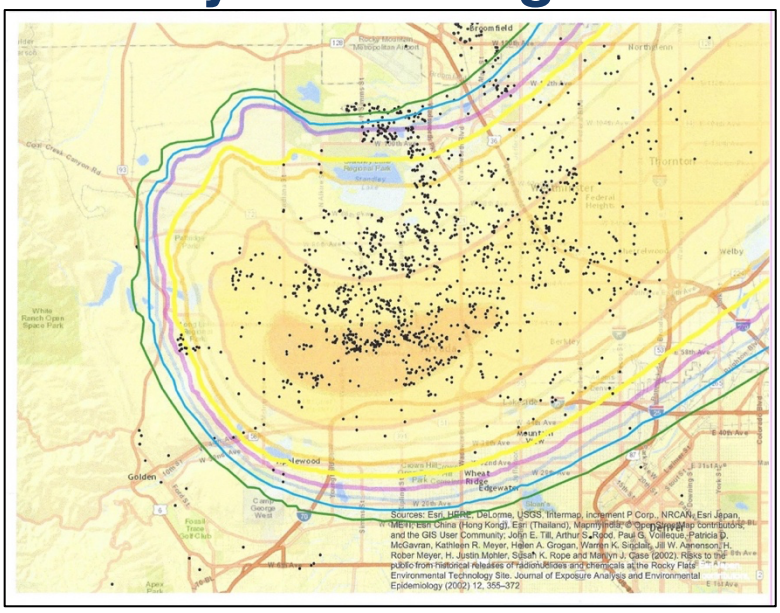
Primary Colorado media contacts

Return to Find a Source

This guide reorganizes the community-provided statements and contact information supplied for the 2026 RECA media effort. Quotes are preserved as supplied, with light typographic normalization for publication layout.

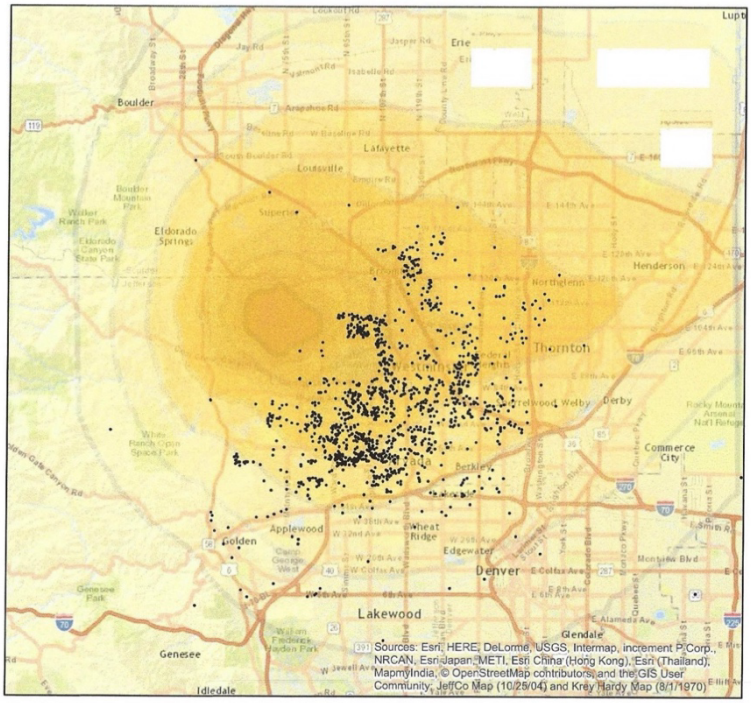


Rocky Flats Image Gallery



The Concentric Contoured Plumes (Shaded Rings): Represent the varying levels of airborne exposure and soil contamination (primarily Plutonium-239 and Americium-241) that spread eastward and southward over time due to prevailing wind patterns and plant accidents. Source.

The Scattered Black Dots: Represent geoplotted health data points mapping the self-reported residences of cancer patients and chronically ill individuals surveyed by the Rocky Flats Downwinders community organization. [1, 2]



The JeffCo Map (10/25/04) and Krey Hardy Map (8/1/70) overlaying the geoplotted health data points mapping the self-reported residences of cancer patients and chronically ill individuals surveyed by the Rocky Flats Downwinders community organization. [1, 2]

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Rocky Flats Downwinders Health Survey
Metropolitan State University of Denver

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Research Overview

Metropolitan State University of Denver in partnership with Rocky Flats Downwinders (RFD) are conducting a health survey to investigate relationships between residents who lived downwind of the former Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant and unusual illnesses. A survey was deployed on May 16, 2016, and 1,745 responses have been collected and assessed to date, for both geographic and illness information. The survey is designed to collect data from residents who lived in the area between 1952 and 1992 within the boundaries of Highway 128/120th Ave. on the north, I-25 on the east, I-70 on the south and Highway 93 on the west through convenience sampling.

Preliminary Findings

Data pertaining to illness was geoplotted on a map of the survey area. Two sourced maps of contamination from the plant in the form of radiation and fires were overlaid on the geoplotted data to identify possible correlation between illness and radiation exposure in the area.[iii] The results are anecdotal, compelling, non-conclusive.

Within the 1,745 completed surveys for the 64-year time period, there were 848 cases of cancer with 414 of those cases being cancers designated as "rare" (less than 15/100,000 people). These rare cancers account for 48.8 percent of the total cancer cases for these survey results as compared to the US rate for "rare" cancers which is 25 percent. The most common cancers in this study, in order of prevalence, are breast, thyroid, prostate and colon. The most cancers for the US and Colorado, in order of prevalence, are breast, prostate, lung, and colon with thyroid ranking 9th. The data for all other types of illnesses has yet to be examined, but the identified patterns warrant further investigation.

Prevalence of Cancers:

- Ranking of prevalence of cancers in US and Colorado (reported as number per 100,000 people per year):
  1. Breast
  2. Prostate
  3. Lung
  4. Colon

  9. Thyroid (National Cancer Institute - https://www.cancer.gov/types/common-cancers)
- Ranking of prevalence of cancers of people reported in the RFD Health Survey (reported as cumulative for 64 years):
  1. Breast
  2. Thyroid
  3. Prostate
  4. Colon

[Rocky Flats Downwinders Metropolitan State Integrative Health Department 's Health Survey Preliminary Findings]

In November 2016, Metropolitan State University released Preliminary Results of its Health Survey of Rocky Flats Downwinders. Data pertaining to illness was geo plotted on a map of the survey area. Two sourced maps of contamination from the plant in the form of radiation and fires were overlaid on the geo plotted data to identify possible correlation between illness and radiation exposure in the area. The results are anecdotal, compelling, non-conclusive.

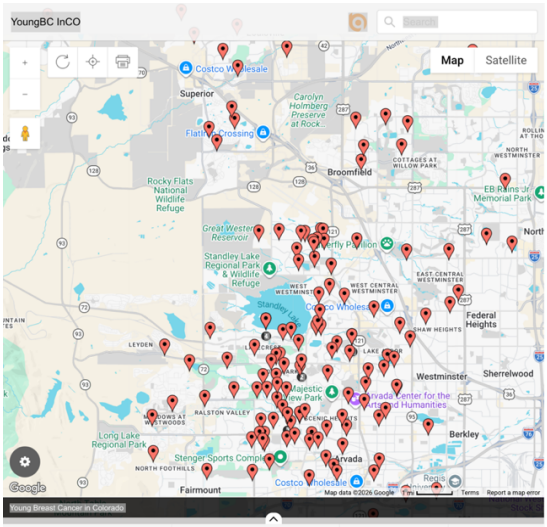
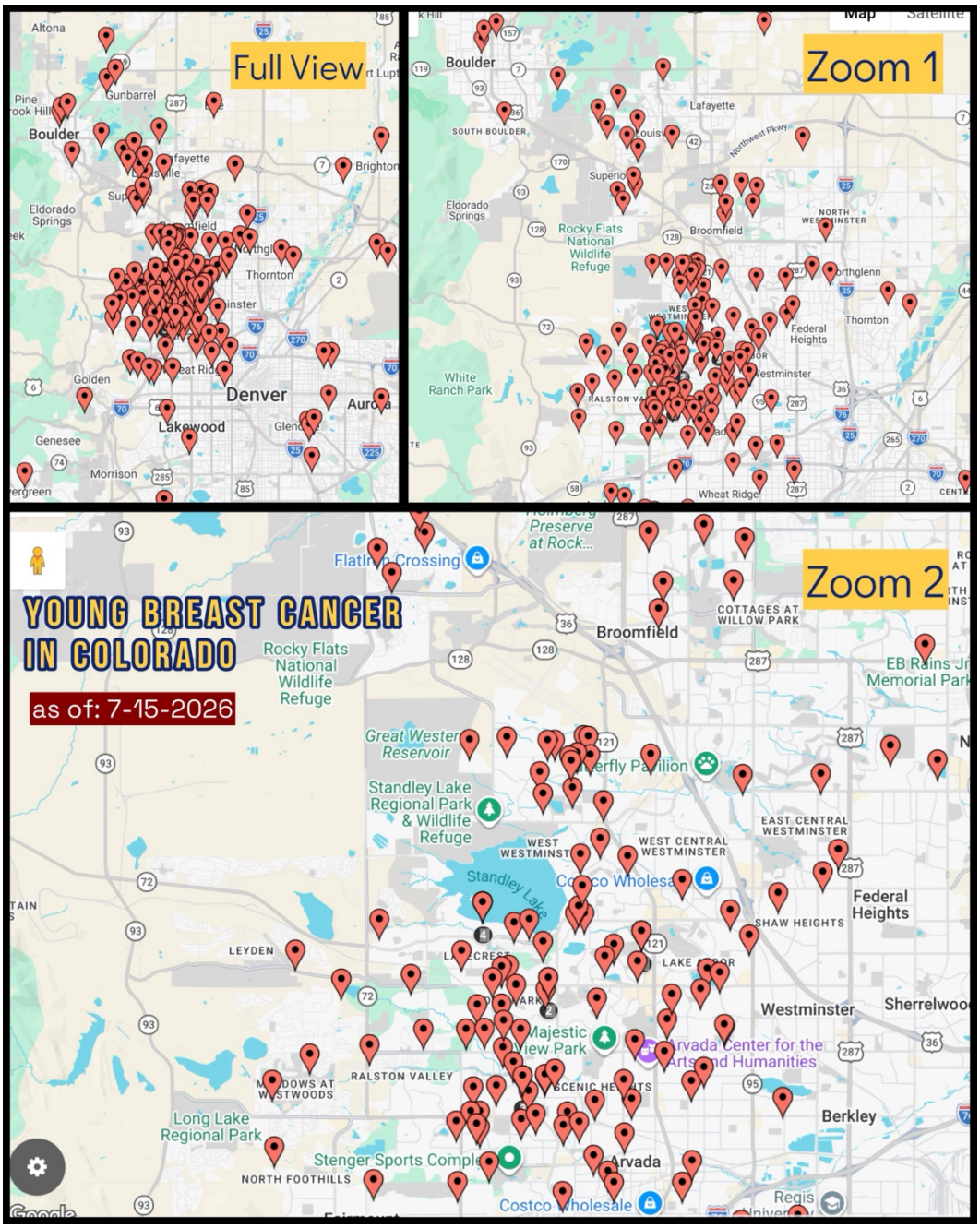


Image Courtesy: Young Breast Cancer in Colorado Mapping Project

Since 2019, more than 220 women have voluntarily shared their diagnoses through the Young Breast Cancer Colorado Mapping Project. As submissions accumulated, striking geographic patterns emerged. Many reported cases are concentrated within specific ZIP codes, neighborhoods, streets and, in some instances, individual cul-de-sacs. Several communities downwind from the former Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant show dense concentrations of reports. These community-reported patterns do not prove causation or establish a cancer cluster, but they raise serious questions that deserve rigorous, independent scientific investigation.

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[Image Courtesy: Young Breast Cancer in Colorado Mapping Project]

Several communities surrounding the former Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant show dense concentrations of reports. The project does not claim that these observations prove causation or establish a cancer cluster. Instead, the maps identify community-reported geographic patterns that deserve rigorous, independent scientific investigation.

“Communities should never have to crowdsource the search for answers about cancer.”

Every reported case represents a woman whose life has been permanently changed by cancer - and every diagnosis affects parents, spouses, children, siblings, friends and entire communities.

“Whether these patterns ultimately prove to be related or coincidental, the human toll is undeniable,” Kelley said. “Colorado families deserve answers grounded in science.”

The project is being shared with legislators, researchers and public-health officials as community-reported data that may help guide epidemiological research and advocacy to expand Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) recognition and protections for potentially affected Colorado communities, including those near Rocky Flats.

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Historical images supplied for the 2026 RECA media resource. Captions and image credits are reproduced from the source images where visible.



Leaking waste oil drums were discovered on the 903 Pad.

*Source. This image is a work of a United States Department of Energy (or predecessor organization) employee, taken or made as part of that person's official duties. As a work of the U.S. federal government, the image is in the **public domain**.*



The FBI raided Rocky Flats in June 1989

*Source. This image is a work of a United States Department of Energy (or predecessor organization) employee, taken or made as part of that person's official duties. As a work of the U.S. federal government, the image is in the **public domain**.*

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Waste drums containing plutonium-contaminated solvents and oils are stored outside on bare ground at the pad 903 in 1962. In total, over 8,000 waste drums were stored throughout all buildings at Rocky Flats, including 4,000 on this pad alone. The drums were removed in 1967 and 1968. Source.

*This image is a work of a United States Department of Energy (or predecessor organization) employee, taken or made as part of that person's official duties. As a work of the U.S. federal government, the image is in the **public domain**.*



Allen Ginsberg, Peter Orlovksy and fellow meditators, blocking the supply rail for Rocky Flats nuclear weapons production facility, Jefferson County, Colorado, June 1978. **photo c. Joe Daniel**

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Judge Orders Cop Freed

THE DENVER POST

THERE'S GOOD NEWS TODAY

U.S. TO BUILD $45 MILLION A-PLANT NEAR DENVER

Paratroopers Fill the Sky in Surprise Attack on the Reds

Work to Start In April on Site North of Arvada

Cop Freed In Shooting Of Boy, 15

20,000 Reds Flee Yank Paratroopers

Plane With 53 Aboard Missing

O'Dwyer Faces U. S. Tax, Perjury Probe

The Denver Post (dated March 23, 1951) announces plans to build a $45 million atomic energy plant—which became the infamous Rocky Flats Plant—near Denver, Colorado. [1, 2, 3] Source.



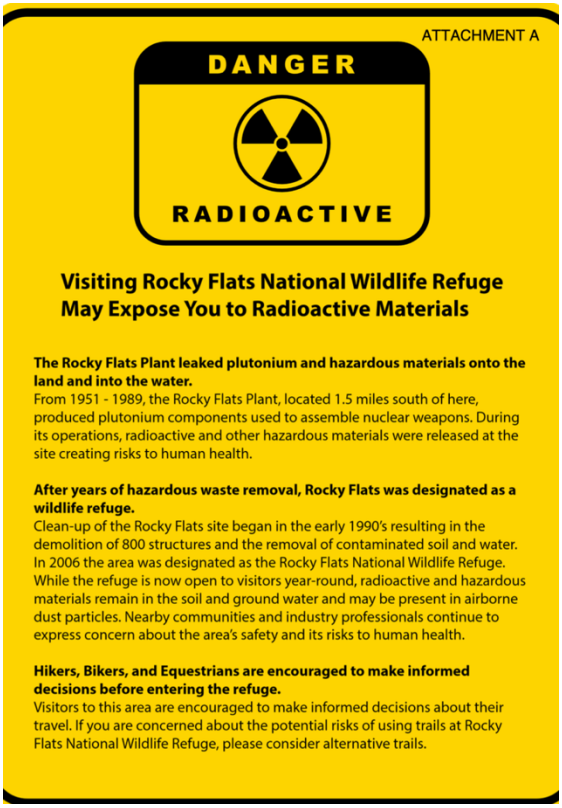
Source: University of Colorado Credit Photography: SiriJodha Singh Khalsa

On October 15, 1983, an estimated 17,000 peaceful demonstrators joined hands in a historic human chain to encircle the 17-mile perimeter of the Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant near Boulder, Colorado, protesting plutonium trigger production during the Cold War. [1, 2, 3, 4]

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The Cold War Horse overlooks Arvada and Downtown Denver. **Courtesy of Jeff Gipe**



ATTACHMENT A

DANGER

RADIOACTIVE

Visiting Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge May Expose You to Radioactive Materials

The Rocky Flats Plant leaked plutonium and hazardous materials onto the land and into the water.
From 1951 - 1989, the Rocky Flats Plant, located 1.5 miles south of here, produced plutonium components used to assemble nuclear weapons. During its operations, radioactive and other hazardous materials were released at the site creating risks to human health.

After years of hazardous waste removal, Rocky Flats was designated as a wildlife refuge.
Clean-up of the Rocky Flats site began in the early 1990's resulting in the demolition of 800 structures and the removal of contaminated soil and water. In 2006 the area was designated as the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge. While the refuge is now open to visitors year-round, radioactive and hazardous materials remain in the soil and ground water and may be present in airborne dust particles. Nearby communities and industry professionals continue to express concern about the area's safety and its risks to human health.

Hikers, Bikers, and Equestrians are encouraged to make informed decisions before entering the refuge.
Visitors to this area are encouraged to make informed decisions about their travel. If you are concerned about the potential risks of using trails at Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge, please consider alternative trails.

This informational yellow warning sign addresses potential radioactive and hazardous material risks for visitors at the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge in Colorado.

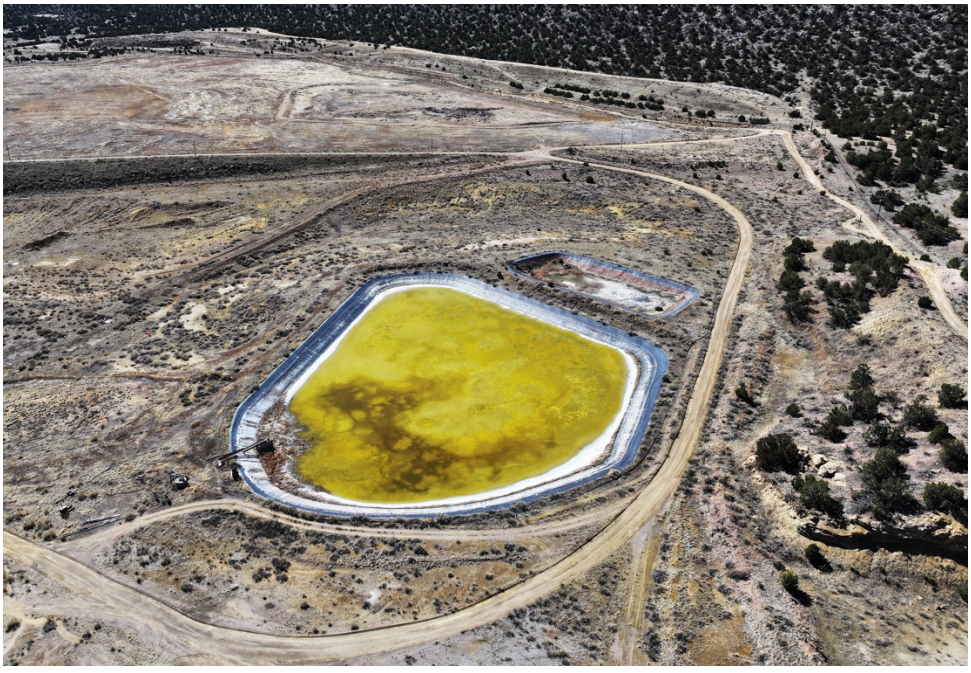
Current Advisory: Following cleanup efforts and conversion to a wildlife refuge, local municipalities (such as Boulder County and Westminster) approved updated warning signage to inform hikers, bikers, and equestrians that residual traces of plutonium and hazardous substances may still exist in soil, groundwater, or dust.

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Cotter Mill / Cañon City Image Gallery



The Cotter Corp Mill on October 13, 1980. (Denver Post file photo by Dave Buresh)



The Colorado Legacy Land/Lincoln Park Superfund site, formerly known as the Cotter Uranium Mill, is located next to the unincorporated community of Lincoln Park, about two miles south of Cañon City in Fremont County, as seen on March 26, 2025. The former uranium mill was designated a Superfund site in 1984. **(Photo by RJ Sangosti/The Denver Post)**

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Jeri Fry, co-founder of Colorado Citizens Against Toxic Waste, or CCAT, holds up an image of the Cotter Uranium Mill superfund site, which is also in the background, on October 17, 2023, in Cañon City, Colorado. Her father, Lynn Boughton, was the whistleblower at the Cotter uranium processing mill. The Superfund site has an estimated 5.8 million tons of radioactive waste buried within 2 miles of homes. **(Photo by Helen H. Richardson/The Denver Post)**



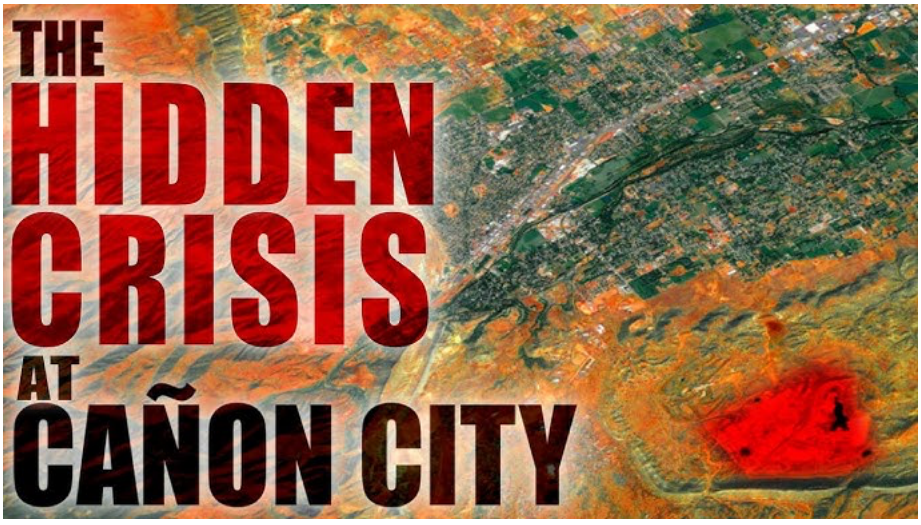
A sign denoting the Colorado Legacy Land remediation project at the site of the former Cotter Mill Superfund Site in Cañon City on Feb. 10. Colorado Legacy Land announced on Feb. 20, 2023 that it was out of money and no longer able to conduct remediation work at the site. **(Mike Sweeney, Special to The Colorado Sun)**

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Documentaries



Half-Life of Memory: America's Forgotten Atomic Bomb Factory is a 2024 documentary directed by Jeff Gipe that explores the hidden history and toxic legacy of the Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant near Denver, Colorado. [1, 2, 3]



The Hidden Crisis (Documentary) - Crime, Corruption, and the Poisoning of Cañon City

From the founding of the Cotter Corporation in 1956 in the shadow of the atomic bomb, to the problems faced by the community that lives in the site's nearly abandoned shadow, this work serves as both a comprehensive history of the creation and operation of the Cotter Uranium Mill, as well as an investigation into the highly questionable/unethical business practices and behaviors of the site's most recent owners and contractor, Colorado Legacy Land and Ensero Solutions.

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