

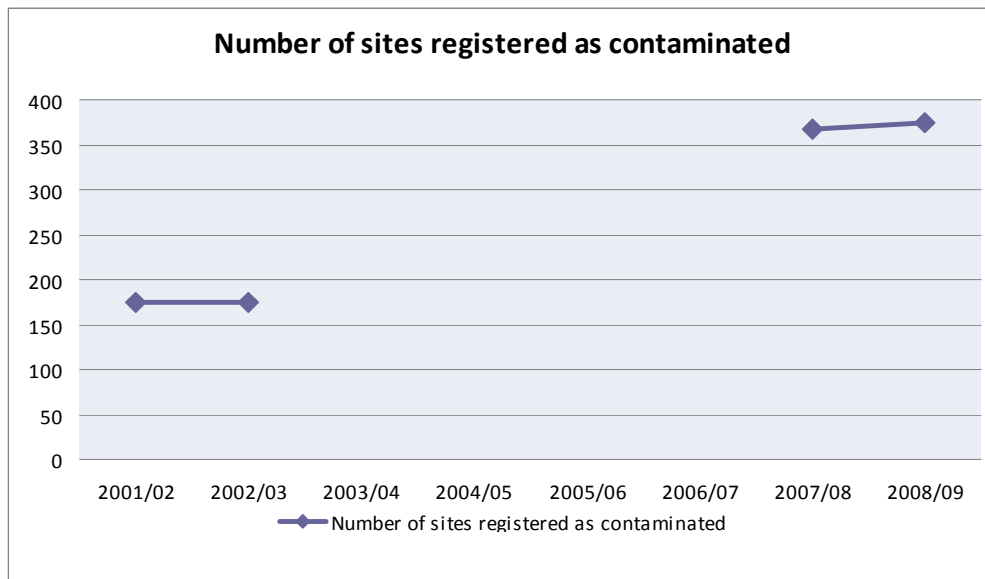
Land

What are we monitoring?

The number of sites registered as contaminated

What is the trend?

The number of sites registered as contaminated significantly increased between 2001-2002 and 2008-2009. The addition of sewer pumping stations to the register in 2008 contributed to this increase. A site is classified as contaminated when hazardous substances occur at concentrations that are above normal background levels, posing a potential risk to community health or the environment. Council maintains a register of contaminated land. The register highlights contamination issues during the development application process. These premises are also listed on a planning certificate (s.149 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act).



Year	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Number of sites registered as contaminated	175	175	-	-	-	-	368	374

Why is monitoring this trend important?

Land contamination is most often the result of past uses. It can arise from activities that took place on or adjacent to a site such as improper chemical handling or disposal practices, accidental spillages or leakages of chemicals during manufacturing or storage. Activities not directly related to the site may also cause contamination; for example, polluted groundwater migrating under a site or dust settling from industrial emissions. Contaminated land can potentially cause immediate or long-term adverse effects on human health and the environment. Land contamination is most often the result of past land use such as, service stations, fuel depots, horticultural facilities, orchards, gasworks etc.

Source: Blue Mountains City Council, 2009