

Discover anti-aging for the modern age


IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION
 You should not use Sculptra Aesthetic if you are allergic to any ingredient of the product or have a history of keloid formation or hypertrophic scarring. Sculptra Aesthetic should not be injected while

US.POL.10.01.023

Please see full Prescribing Information and Patient's Guide

sculptra[®]aesthetic
 (injectable poly-L-lactic acid) | anti-age for the modern age

abc NEWS App for iPad™



your world. in your hands.

Available on the App Store

CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD



HOT TOPICS:
 Casey Anthony Trial • Shia LaBeouf • JFK Turtles

Facebook • ESPN • ABC

Home Video **News** Politics Investigative Health Entertainment Money Tech World News Nightline This Week 20/20 WWYD? Good Morning America

MORE NEWS: Casey Anthony | Anthony Weiner | Business Traveler | Royal Wedding | Cuomo on the Case | Stocks | Weather | Sports from ESPN.com | U.S. | International

HOME > U.S.

Los Alamos Fire: 1st Air Samples Show No Elevated Radiation



Los Alamos Wildfire Threatens Nuclear Lab

AUTO START: ON | OFF

Click for your chance to win a free Thrive™ Tablet.



TOSHIBA
 Leading Innovation >>>

CLICK TO ENTER

WATCH EVENINGS ON ABC



WATCH THE FULL EPISODE
 World News: Manufacturing Jobs

By RYAN OWENS
 June 29, 2011

The wildfire that surrounds the nuclear lab in Los Alamos, N.M., has grown to at least 61,000 acres amid mounting concerns about what might be in the smoke that's visible from space.

Share

45 Comments

Print

Text Size - / +

Such fear has prompted fire crews to set their own fires along the perimeter of the lab. So far, the strategy is working. The first air samples show lots of smoke, but no signs of elevated radiation.

"Those results show that what we see in this fire is exactly what we see in any fire across New Mexico," said Charles McMillan, the lab's director.

Environmental officials aren't taking any chances. The Environmental Protection Agency is bringing in dozens of air monitors all around the state, along with a special airplane that takes instant radiation samples. So far, officials have not been able to find anything amiss.

"Our facilities and nuclear material are protected and safe," McMillan told ABC News.

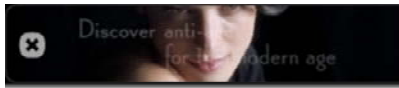
Some observers are worried not just about the barrels of nuclear waste

Diane Sawyer Recommends



- Los Alamos Fire: 1st Air Samples OK
- Kabul Hotel Attack by 'Coward Enemies': Official
- Random Acts of Pizza: How to Donate

ABC News on Facebook



Discover anti-aging for the modern age

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

US.POL.10.01.023

You should not use Sculptra Aesthetic if you are allergic to any ingredient of the product or have a history of keloid formation or hypertrophic scarring. Sculptra Aesthetic should not be injected while

Please see full Prescribing Information and Patient's Guide

sculptra aesthetic
injectable poly-L-lactic acid | anti-age for the modern age

back to the 1940s.

"The trees have grown up during that time frame and the soil could be contaminated," said Rita Bates of the New Mexico Environment Department. "If it gets heated and that stuff goes airborne, then we are concerned about that."

The canyons were a dumping ground for radioactive materials decades ago, but are now open to the public and are considered safe.

Still, one graduate student armed with a Geiger counter took to YouTube to show there was no shortage of metal or radioactivity.

Much of the area burned in the massive fire that blazed through the area in 2000, and no elevated levels of radiation were detected then.

PHOTOS: Los Alamos Wildfires Continue to Light Up Sky

The Los Alamos facility -- the birthplace of the atomic bomb -- was shrouded in secrecy long before it was surrounded by smoke after the Las Conchas fire began Sunday.

"It contains approximately 20,000 barrels of nuclear waste," former top security official Glen Walp said. "It's not contained within a concrete, brick-and-mortar-type building, but rather in a sort of fabric-type building that a fire could easily consume.

"Potential is high for a major calamity if the fire would reach these areas," he added.

The flames from the 108-square-mile fire reportedly have reached as close as 50 feet from the grounds. With a wildfire so close, lab officials, along with government officials such as New Mexico Gov. Susana Martinez, are trying to reassure the public of the plant's safety.

"I'm confident in saying that they are committed to making it safe," Martinez told ABC News.

Thousands Evacuated, Some Remain

After a mass evacuation, the city of Los Alamos remains a ghost town. Most of its 12,000 residents were evacuated Monday, with some leaving their sprinklers on to protect their homes.

Still, according to Police Chief Wayne Torpy, about 150 die-hard residents have stayed behind, unfazed by the danger presented by their nuclear neighbor.

"I know the laboratory is secure and they're ready for this kind of emergency situation," Stephanie Chavez, a resident of Los Alamos, told ABC News.

FOLLOW US



Last Minute Cruises

Save up to 82% on last minute cruises on our 90-Day Ticker. VacationsToGo.com

Duracell And Travel

For The Best Battery To Power Your Travel Needs Pick Duracell Battery. www.Duracell.com

Airport Hotel & Parking

Free parking & airport shuttle at airport hotels. Stay Park Fly & Save www.stay123.net

Bahamas Spring Getaway

Get Your 4th Night Free on a Getaway to Nassau Paradise Islands www.NassauParadiseIsland.com

ABC News Newsletters

E-mail Address Select Newsletter

SIGN UP NOW

[More Newsletters »](#)



/AP Photo

The Las Conchas fire burns near the Los... [View Full Size](#)



Los Alamos Wildfires: Detectors Checking the Air [Watch Video](#)



Los Alamos Wildfire Evacuation [Watch Video](#)



Nuclear Plant Evacuation Concerns [Watch Video](#)

Against Clean Coal?
Understand the benefits. Learn the truth, read the facts. We can help. AmericasPower.org

Discover anti-aging for the modern age

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION
 You should not use Sculptra Aesthetic if you are allergic to any ingredient of the product or have a history of keloid formation or hypertrophic scarring. Sculptra Aesthetic should not be injected while

US.POL.10.01.023

Please see full Prescribing Information and Patient's Guide

sculptra aesthetic
 injectable poly-L-lactic acid | anti-age for the modern age

MORE FROM ABC NEWS

- [Residents Flee Los Alamos as Flames Close In](#)
- [Flood Seeps Into Neb. Nuke Plant Building](#)
- [Los Alamos Wildfires: Detectors Checking the Air](#)
- [Los Alamos Wildfire Evacuation](#)
- [Nuclear Plant Evacuation Concerns](#)
- [Arizona Wildfires](#)

[More Video](#)

FROM AROUND THE WEB

- [5 Awesome Radio Controlled Toys for Grown Men \(Man of the House\)](#)
- [America's Worst Speed Traps \(CNBC\)](#)
- [Things to Avoid or Change When You Are Depressed \(Health Central\)](#)
- [Why Every Guy Should Buy a Battery Backup for a Computer \(Man of the House\)](#)
- [The 10 Cleanest Cities \(CNBC\)](#)

[\[What's This?\]](#)

Local Coupons

1 ridiculously huge coupon a day. Get 50-90% off your city's best!
www.Groupon.com

Don't Be Shy. Try Forex.
 Risk Free Practice Account. GFT.
GFTforex.com

Alamo® Official Site
 Save \$25 on weekly rentals! Skip the line w/ self-service kiosks.
www.Alamo.com

[Email](#) [Print](#)

Comment & Contribute

Do you have more information about this topic? If so, please [click here](#) to contact the editors of ABC News.

POST YOUR COMMENT

[View All Comments \(45\)](#)

Rally2xs 1:20 AM EDT Jun 30, 2011
 Why isn't there a continuous program to bulldoze everything green from around this facility to about a mile out? If there's no forest, then there's no forest FIRE, get it? You don't need a PHD to figure that out...

patsat23 11:17 PM EDT Jun 29, 2011
 Why is it since we have allowed the Federal Logging Company to take over our forests, there has been more air pollution, more destruction of trees and homes, and more death of animals and protected species than all the logging companies combined prior to the takeover? We need to go back to the traditional means of

Discover anti-aging for the modern age

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION
 You should not use Sculptra Aesthetic if you are allergic to any ingredient of the product or have a history of keloid formation or hypertrophic scarring. Sculptra Aesthetic should not be injected while

US.POL.10.01.023

Please see full Prescribing Information and Patient's Guide

sculptra aesthetic
 injectable poly-L-lactic acid | anti-age for the modern age

the fears of sparks setting off every old bush around. I am tired of the so-called "let-
 philosophy America and
 t our true l
 the TREND
 type buildin
 course, Ne
 any fires, right!? This was the one time that I really thought (mistakenly) that we were
 safe because concrete and steel are not damaged by fire. Hah! 'Human Torpedoes' Race Underwater
 Can Glamour Shots Lead to Anorexia?

UFOs Spotted Over London
 Jun 29, 2011

Can Twins Read Each Others' Minds?

[View All Comments \(45\)](#)

Headlines from Our Partners



Tsonga stuns Federer in five sets at Wimbledon
 Ibanez HR lifts Phils after Worley limits Red Sox
 NBA heads to CBA deadline day, sides far apart



Florida Man Accused Of Smoking Bong While Driving Five Kids In Van
 WATCH: Lizardman Cloned At Ripley's Times Square Odditorium, Celebrates With Corkscrew (Video)
 WATCH: 2 1/2 Pound Chihuahua Turned Sheepdog 'Can Do It All'

EXPEDITION IMPOSSIBLE
 WATCH A SNEAK PEEK ▶
 ALL NEW THURSDAY 9|8c abc



External links are provided for reference purposes. ABC News is not responsible for the content of external Internet sites. Copyright © 2011 ABC News Internet Ventures.

[BACK TO TOP](#)

Sections

- News
- Politics
- Investigative
- Health
- Entertainment
- Money
- Technology
- Travel
- Recipes
- Behind the Scenes

Shows

- Good Morning America
- World News with Diane Sawyer
- Nightline
- This Week with Christiane Amanpour
- 20/20
- Primetime
- What Would You Do?
- ABC News Now
- ABC.com

Tools

- iPad App
- Mobile
- Register
- Sign In
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Blogs
- Emails & News Alerts
- Message Boards
- RSS Headlines

About

- Contact Us
- Feedback
- Advertising
- Privacy Policy
- Interest-Based Ads
- Terms of Use
- ABC News Store
- Site Map