

Introduction to the Project

EVS 248 Environmental Geology and Hydrology

Fall Semester

Welcome back for a new semester. Lab for the first half of this course is going to focus on preparing an Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) for a proposed sale of the K-Mart near UD. Though the K-Mart is not currently up for sale, it was the first big-box store in Dubuque and is showing its age. K-Mart and Sears are part of the same corporation, and there may not be sufficient business to support both. As the K-Mart building ages, maintenance expenses rise, shoppers drift away to newer stores, and the store closing becomes increasingly likely. If that occurs, we will be ready with an ESA to assist the transfer.

Today's lab focuses on initial necessary preparatory work. Please prepare and submit on Moodle the following items, to be completed before the beginning of next week's lab.

- What is an Environmental Site Assessment? What are differences between Phases I, II, and III?
- Locate or prepare a checklist for a Phase I assessment.
- What are the latitude and longitude of the center of the K-Mart building? How did you determine it?
- We will be using the latitude and longitude to order a Radius Map Report. What is that?
- Who owns the property upon which the K-Mart is located? Prepare a map of the property boundaries. You will be using this map throughout the semester. Who owns adjacent property?
- Determine as much as you can about the history of the property. We will add to this throughout the course.
- **Most important:** What is a REC (Recognized Environmental Condition)? Give examples that we might encounter.

In writing this up to turn in, prepare it as a chapter for your final report. Call this chapter *Introduction*. Complete two sections: *Project description* and *Background Information*.