



Site characterization

Our site characterization experts lead the industry in technical excellence and innovation.

Environmental site characterization is the crucial first step in addressing known or suspected contamination. It is analogous to diagnosing illnesses in medical professions — without a proper diagnosis, there can't be an effective remedy. But the site characterization process can be costly and protracted. If you have already spent time and money characterizing your site, spending more money for site characterization may seem counterintuitive. But new understanding of the behavior of contaminants in the subsurface and new high-resolution site characterization technologies mean that taking a fresh look at your Conceptual Site Model (CSM) is often a very smart investment.

Haley & Aldrich's environmental site characterization practitioners don't approach site characterization as a one-size-fits-all activity. We customize our approach to align with the goals of our clients. We focus on quickly developing a better understanding of subsurface conditions, which is necessary to accurately define the risk posed to groundwater or vapor receptors. If active remediation is necessary, clear delineation of the source of the contamination allows us to develop the most cost-effective remediation approach. At sites where environmental stewardship is needed, our updated CSMs typically lead to less expensive long-term monitoring.

Due to the intricate nature of the subsurface environment, most subsurface CSMs are inherently complex. Haley & Aldrich's site characterization team specializes in developing clear two- and three-dimensional graphical depictions of the subsurface that convey key information digestible for all stakeholders, including remediation engineers, environmental regulators, investors, and business partners.

Talk to our service expert



[Murray Einarson](#)

Service Leader, Contaminated Site Management

Service highlights

- CSM development and data gap analysis
- Data visualization and CSM animations
- Environmental forensics and litigation support
- Evaluations of existing or potential impacts to receptors
- Expert laboratory data validation
- Geological analysis by stratigraphers and fractured rock specialists
- High-resolution site characterization (HRSC)
- Streamlined Superfund RI/FS workflows
- Vapor intrusion evaluations



Nationally recognized experts leading the industry

We are nationally known for our expertise in HRSC. We also train environmental regulators, and have authored guidance documents for U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and industry groups. We participate in cutting-edge research on topics including innovative site characterization technologies and remediation of emerging contaminants such as 1,4 dioxane and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). You can find our technical experts speaking at national environmental conferences and authoring technical papers in the top environmental engineering journals.

We tailor our site characterization services to the following markets:

- [Aerospace](#)
- [Education, healthcare, and cultural institutions](#)
- [Energy](#)
- [Environmental trusts](#)
- [Government infrastructure](#)
- [Industrial and manufacturing](#)
- [Mining-](#)
- [Real estate developers](#)

Haley & Aldrich's environmental remediation team is committed to delivering innovative solutions that yield decisive results as quickly as possible.