

# What Happened and Why it Won't Happen Again

## Who is ELMCO?

- Privately owned American small business (less than 12 employees)
- Located in Franklin since 1978
- Produces specialty paints and lacquers
- Some products contain toluene, acetone, and other VOCs (solvents)



## What Happened?

- Twelve tanks (tank farm) and underground pipes installed in 1978
- Pipes carried solvents from the tank farm to the building
- Contractor installing pipes failed to protect elbows at tank farm end (all other locations properly protected)
- Unprotected elbows rusted from outside
- Solvents leaked undetected into soil, then into groundwater and to Liberty Creek and Harpeth River
- Investigation showed this was the only leak

## Why Won't it Happen Again?

- Use of pipes ceased upon discovery of leak (February 2007)
- Pipes purged and permanently disconnected from tanks (February to March 2007)
- Tank farm permanently removed from site (April 2008)
- Solvents now staged in drums and totes inside building

