

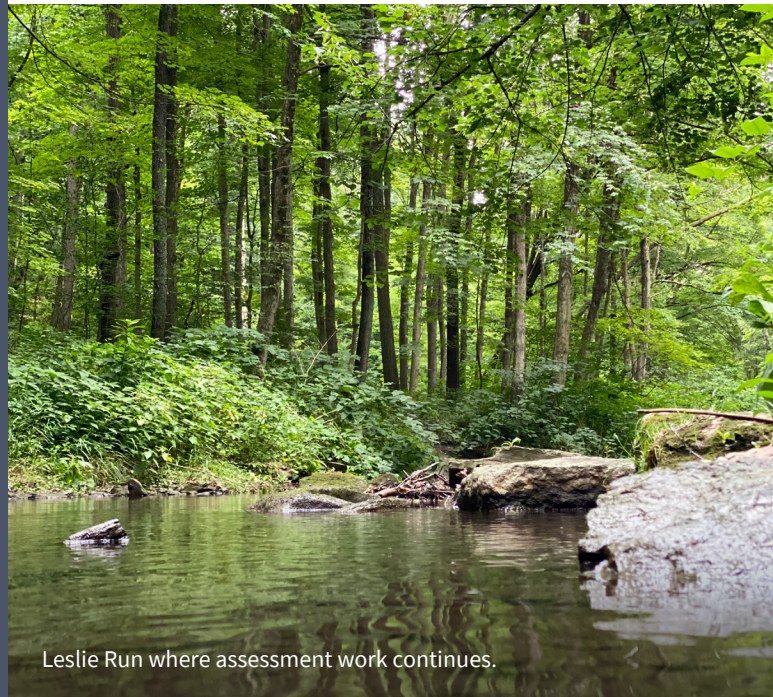
# East Palestine

## TRAIN DERAILMENT RESPONSE

Serving East Palestine, Negley, Darlington  
and surrounding communities

# NEWSLETTER

August 08, 2023



Leslie Run where assessment work continues.

## PROGRESS MADE

### Site Characterization Plan Approved

EPA has approved plans to identify the extent of remaining soil and sediment contamination near the derailment site, assess possible vapor intrusion pathways, and investigate any possible impacts to groundwater near the derailment site. The results of this effort will help responding agencies understand whether there may be any additional cleanup needs at the site. EPA and Ohio EPA will oversee this work.

### Rover Deployed for Reconnaissance in Culverts

An air monitor attached to a small rover was deployed in the culverts along Sulphur Run. This robot collects data in spots that are difficult for crews to reach. Results from these operations are used to characterize culverts along Sulphur Run for health and safety purposes.

### South Ditch Excavation Begins Soon

Excavation is expected to start soon at the south ditch. Sheet piling was installed to ensure the stability of the surrounding soil and rail. Once excavation begins, it is expected to take several weeks.

### Cleaning and Demobilizing Storage Tanks in Tank Farm 5

Cleaning of the small blue storage tanks is ongoing at Tank Farm 5. Solid residues and cleaning water waste are collected during this process for off-site disposal.



A rover is used in a culvert along Sulphur Run



Instruments in a van collect real-time data from the rover



A map of indoor cleaning eligibility boundary. Residents have until September 5 to express interest.

## A LOOK AHEAD

### AT THE DERAILMENT SITE

- Sampling and excavation will begin at the south ditch area running along the south track.
- Taggart Street remains closed to the public.

### IN THE GREATER COMMUNITY

- Air monitoring continues, with 15 air monitoring locations that are checked daily and two roving air monitoring vehicles running daily.

- Daily sampling of water in Sulphur Run and Leslie Run will continue.
- Sediment sampling continues in Sulphur Run and will begin in Leslie Run.
- Home cleaning interviews will begin for interested East Palestine residents. For more information call the EPA Welcome Center at 330-775-6517.



## SAFETY MINUTE

### Scams

Be aware that callers impersonating federal EPA officials may call and leave messages with residents. EPA staff will never ask for information like your social security number or bank account. EPA will also never ask for payment for any services. If you receive a suspicious call, you can contact the EPA Welcome Center at **330-775-6517**.



(330) 775-6517



R5\_eastpalestine@epa.gov



epa.gov/east-palestine-oh-train-derailment

# TOP 3 QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

## 01 Who is eligible for home cleaning?

Anyone who lives in the village of East Palestine limits or within the 1-mile by 2-mile Ohio-Pennsylvania evacuation area is eligible for this service (see map). Priority will be given to those that have been relocated. If you're interested, you can let us know by calling 330-775-6517, filling out our form online [epa.gov/east-palestine-oh-train-derailment](https://epa.gov/east-palestine-oh-train-derailment), or visiting the EPA Community Welcome Center. If you previously contacted EPA to inquire about interest in the program, there is no need to contact us again. Please note that there will be an end date to contact EPA with program interest. The last day to notify EPA is Tuesday, September 5.

## 02 Why is cleaning of homes and places of businesses happening?

Norfolk Southern, with EPA oversight, is providing indoor cleaning to eligible occupants in response to concerns about the impact of the derailment and cleanup work on homes and places of businesses. The cleaning is to address potential dust that may have been generated as part of the train derailment and cleanup work, not chemical impacts.

## 03 Why are street cleaners no longer watering Taggart the same way they used to?

Street cleaners now lightly mist Taggart with water before using a vacuum truck to collect material from the road. Crews adopted this approach to keep sediment and dust out of the storm drains and Sulphur Run. signage is posted near Sulphur Run and Leslie Run.

## SITE STATUS CHECK

As of August 4



**NORTH TRACK:**  
In operation

**SOUTH TRACK:**  
In operation



**LESLIE RUN:**  
Stream monitoring and sampling continues

**SULPHUR RUN:**  
Stream monitoring and sampling continues

# 28.8 million

est. gallons of wastewater shipped offsite



# 84,402

est. tons of solid waste shipped offsite

## COMMUNITY CORNER



Source: East Palestine City School District

The East Palestine City School District will host a Back to School Bash on Saturday, August 12. The event will begin with a parade downtown at 4 p.m. After the parade, the bash starts at the high school stadium from 5 to 7 p.m. and will include bounce houses, slides, games, giveaways, and booths with community partners and businesses. Come out to kick off the school year!

## DID YOU KNOW?



**A cloud can weigh around a million pounds!**

The average cumulus cloud can weigh up to a million pounds, according to the United States Geological Survey (USGS). That cloud can float over your head because the air below it is even heavier. The cloud is less dense than the air below it, allowing it to float.

Source: [usgs.gov/special-topics/water-science-school/science/how-much-does-a-cloud-weigh#:~:text=A%201%20cubic%20kilometer%20\(km,pounds%20\(about%20551%20tons\)](https://usgs.gov/special-topics/water-science-school/science/how-much-does-a-cloud-weigh#:~:text=A%201%20cubic%20kilometer%20(km,pounds%20(about%20551%20tons))



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## UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

- August 12 - Back to School Bash at the East Palestine High School
- August 17 - EPA Operations Update Informational Session from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Topics will include on-site water treatment, the home cleaning program, and upcoming work for October. This session will be held at the East Palestine Community Center at the Village Park.
- August 19 – Historic Car Cruise at the East Palestine Park
- August 26 - West Mayfield Centennial Jubilee in the Borough of West Mayfield
- August 30 to September 4 – Canfield Fair at 7265 Columbiana-Canfield Rd

## STAY INFORMED

EPA continues to release short videos called “This Week at E.P.” to share what work is upcoming at the site. You can find them on our website under “Photos & Videos” or by scanning the QR code.



## ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This newsletter is developed through a joint effort of state and federal agencies and community organizations. If you would like more information about topics discussed, please visit [epa.gov/east-palestine-oh-train-derailment](https://epa.gov/east-palestine-oh-train-derailment) or call EPA’s Information Line at **330-775-6517**.



**SCAN ME** for a list of additional resources

EPA Welcome Center - EPTD  
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