

Updates from the East Palestine Train Derailment Emergency Response EAST PALESTINE, Ohio (June 21, 2024)

- Over the past several days, a large crane dismantled the temporary tent structure over the wastewater treatment plant next to the big blue tanks near the N. Pleasant Drive crossing. The wastewater treatment plant has not been in operation for several months as water is directly shipped off-site for disposal. The big blue tanks will be removed later this summer/fall.
- Due to this week's extreme heat conditions, crews have been working overnight to clean and prepare the temporary water storage tanks off Taggart Road for removal from the site. The crews wear extra safety gear when cleaning the tanks, and performing the work overnight in cooler temperatures protects them from excessive heat stress.
- The smaller, blue frac tanks will be removed from the site, along with the large plastic mats and liner underneath. Soil beneath the mats and liner is also being removed. Once confirmed as non-hazardous, this soil will begin to be loaded and shipped to a landfill in the next couple of weeks. Following soil removal, confirmation sampling will occur, and these areas will be graded and restored.
- The re-assessment of Leslie Run and second re-assessment of Sulphur Run were completed this week. The final qualitative assessment showed no moderate or heavy sheen scores. Sediment sampling in both creeks will begin soon.
- Final confirmation sampling is over 65% complete. Three small areas on-site where significant hazardous substance management operations occurred showed low levels of vinyl chloride present just above site screening levels. In accordance with the approved plans, soil was removed for off-site disposal. More details about this process will be included in the next site newsletter, including a description of how low-level exceedances of other volatile organic compounds will be managed.
- EPA's Welcome Center is open by appointment only. To make an appointment, please call EPA's information line at 330-775-6517. Questions can also be sent to r5_eastpalestine@epa.gov.

Response by the Numbers *(as of June 20)*

- 179,731 tons of solid waste shipped.
- 71,569,429 gallons of wastewater shipped.
- Confirmatory sampling work is over 65% complete.

What to Expect Next Week

- Continue site-wide confirmation sampling.
- Continue tank reduction work and soil sampling in the tank farms south of Taggart Street.
- Continue shipment of untreated wastewater.