

Updates from the East Palestine Train Derailment Emergency Response

EAST PALESTINE, Ohio (September 8, 2023) –

The on-site wastewater treatment plant is now in operation and Ohio EPA has made a contained-in-determination that the first batch of treated wastewater no longer contains hazardous waste and can be considered non-hazardous. EPA approved the treated wastewater for off-site shipment and disposal at an EPA approved facility. Treating the wastewater on-site to ship as non-hazardous will have many benefits to the community including a smaller operational footprint of the site and significantly fewer hazardous waste shipments transported through East Palestine and other communities.

The deadline to express interest in indoor cleaning of eligible homes and businesses has been extended to September 14. Indoor cleaning is being offered to address potential dust generated as part of the derailment and cleanup work. Owners and renters may express interest by filling out the online form (link below), calling the EPA hotline, or visiting the EPA Community Welcome Center. Additional information can be found on the EPA website.

- Website: <https://www.epa.gov/east-palestine-oh-train-derailment/home-and-office-cleaning>
- Interest form: <https://www.epa.gov/east-palestine-oh-train-derailment/forms/express-interest-home-and-office-cleaning>

On Monday, final site characterization sampling will begin to ensure that all derailment-related contamination has been identified. This work will continue at the derailment site and in adjacent areas through the end of the year.

The next biweekly edition of the East Palestine Train Derailment Response newsletter is planned for September 21. All editions of the newsletter to date are available on the EPA [website](#).

EPA staff will be at the Columbiana Street Fair through the weekend.

Response by the Numbers *(as of September 7, 2023)*

- 107,183 tons (estimated) of solid waste shipped
- 32,972,707 gallons (estimated) of liquid waste shipped
- 1,224 EPA assistance line calls received
- 1,024 visits to the Welcome Center
- 10 structure cleanings completed

What to Expect Next Week

At the derailment site:

- On-site wastewater treatment: Wastewater treatment will continue 24 hours a day. Each batch must receive a determination from Ohio EPA before it can be shipped offsite for disposal as non-hazardous wastewater.
- Contaminated soil excavation from South Ditch and Car Scrapping 4 will continue. EPA will continue to oversee all excavation activities, including post-excavation soil sampling, prior to restoration of excavated areas.

In the greater community:

- Air monitoring around the perimeter of the derailment area and in the community continues with stationary air monitors and two mobile units.
- Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is replacing the bridge over Leslie Run in East Palestine. ODOT is expected to continue working on this project. This work is not related to the East Palestine Derailment. For more information contact ODOT at 330-308-7817.