

Updates from the East Palestine Train Derailment Emergency Response EAST PALESTINE, Ohio (January 19, 2024)

- Normal operations of the wastewater treatment plant started again on January 17, after the plant was temporarily shut down due to maintenance, worker safety, and operational adjustments. Winterization of the on-site hazardous wastewater treatment system is complete.
- On Monday, January 15, Norfolk Southern began backfilling new stone and gravel at former Car Scrapping Area 4 north of Taggart Street near CeramFab. Trucking of backfill is planned for Monday through Friday. Residents may notice the increased truck traffic along East Taggart Street between North Pleasant Drive and the Pennsylvania border. East Taggart Street will remain open during this work with normal traffic controls. Backfill work is expected to continue throughout the winter. Soil excavation at the site is complete. Backfilling occurs after sampling results indicate excavated areas are clear and contaminated soil has been removed.
- Field work to implement requirements of EPA's order to Norfolk Southern to conduct a qualitative assessment and collect sediment/sheen samples in Sulphur Run and Leslie Run is complete. EPA and OEPA are reviewing Norfolk Southern's proposed approach to conduct additional cleanup based upon these assessments.
- The initial work in the underground culverts in East Palestine is complete. Drones and robots were used to assist workers as they accessed, surveyed, and monitored the culverts. The assessments of all 5 culverts are complete and 4 of the culverts have been cleaned. Data from the fifth culvert is being evaluated to determine if it needs to be cleaned and whether it should be cleaned in conjunction with the cleanup of nearby creek areas.
- 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.
- The most recent monthly East Palestine newsletter was released on January 10 and can be found [here](#). The next newsletter is expected to be released around February 14. Previous editions are available on EPA's East Palestine webpage, available at <https://www.epa.gov/east-palestine-oh-train-derailment>.

Response by the Numbers *(as of January 17)*

- 176,621 tons (estimated) of solid waste shipped.
- 43,607,045 gallons (estimated) of wastewater shipped.
- Confirmation sampling work is approximately 33% complete.

What to Expect Next Week

At the derailment site:

- Increased truck traffic on East Taggart Street.
- Continue site-wide characterization sampling.