

Updates from the East Palestine Train Derailment Emergency Response

EAST PALESTINE, Ohio (November 3, 2023)

- Now that excavation work is complete at the site, beginning November 6, EPA and Norfolk Southern will adjust air monitoring equipment around the community. Since the evacuation was lifted, outdoor air monitoring and sampling results continue to indicate no concern with respect to derailment-related chemicals and continue to support that the air in East Palestine is safe to breathe. More than 115 million air monitoring and sampling data points have been collected. As site work progress continues, including creek assessment, water treatment, and longer-term assessment work, air monitoring and sampling resources will continue to evolve.
- Stream assessments in Sulphur & Leslie Runs remain ongoing. EPA ordered Norfolk Southern to conduct a sediment and sheen assessment of nearly five miles of creeks and that work began Thursday, November 2.
- Ohio EPA continues conducting drinking water testing of East Palestine municipal water wells ongoing on a weekly basis. Ohio EPA continues weekly sentinel groundwater sampling.
- Project-wide contaminated soil excavation was completed on October 29 and the last shipment of hazardous waste was shipped on October 30. EPA continues to oversee all activities, including post-excavation soil sampling.
 - Car Scrapping Area 4, has been completed
 - Contaminated soil excavation from South Ditch has ended which marks the completion of major excavation work at the site. The next steps will be backfill (or clean soil) placed on-site.
- Structure Cleaning: To date, 120 pre-cleaning interviews have been scheduled, 105 have been completed and 74 structures have been cleaned.
- The latest edition of the East Palestine Train Derailment Response newsletter was printed on October 31. These newsletters will be changing from bi-weekly to monthly starting in November. The next edition will be published on November 15. All editions of the newsletter are available on the EPA [website](#).

Response by the Numbers *(as of November 3)*

- 174,707 tons (estimated) of solid waste shipped.
- 397,057,391 gallons (estimated) of wastewater shipped.
- 72 structures have been cleaned.

What to Expect Next Week

At the derailment site:

- Sitewide characterization continues in areas near the derailment location where equipment, materials, and debris were handled as part of the overall emergency response. More information is on EPA's [Full Characterization Workplan](#) web page.

In the greater community:

- The air monitoring and sampling network will be adjusted as it has when past work activities have changed. Air monitoring will not end – it will continue at site-related activities as progress

continues at the site. Substantial resources will remain available in case equipment needs to be put back into place.