

## Updates from the East Palestine Train Derailment Emergency Response

### EAST PALESTINE, Ohio (October 6, 2023) –

- Based on analysis of soil samples gathered earlier this year, residents can continue to use their properties for normal use, including recreation and gardening. This conclusion is detailed in EPA’s technical memorandum of the Phase 1 Residential, Commercial, Agricultural Soil Sampling Plan, which is now final and on EPA’s [website](#).
- Sheet piling installation and the excavation of contaminated soil underneath N. Pleasant Drive was completed. Following the work, the road was resurfaced and reopened today allowing truck traffic to resume normal routes.
- Initial sediment sampling in Leslie Run and Sulphur Run has been completed and preliminary results are expected in the coming weeks. As many in the community have observed, some of the sediments in Sulphur and Leslie Runs can produce a hydrocarbon sheen when agitated. The extent of sediment contamination from the derailment is being evaluated and is expected to lead to additional investigation and cleanup. Some cleanup work has been performed in the creeks but residents should avoid them and “keep out” signs will remain to deter use.
- On Wednesday, a record number 136 trucks hauling soil were shipped off-site.
- Indoor cleaning of eligible homes and businesses and pre-cleaning interviews continue. To date, 120 pre-cleaning interviews have been scheduled, 99 have been completed and 48 structures have been cleaned.
- The on-site wastewater treatment plant is operating around the clock; non-hazardous treated wastewater continues to be shipped off-site for disposal at an EPA approved facility.
- The next biweekly edition of the East Palestine Train Derailment Response newsletter is planned for October 17. All editions of the newsletter to date are available on the EPA [website](#).

### Response by the Numbers (as of October 5, 2023)

- 148,662 tons (estimated) of solid waste shipped
- 34,327,440 gallons (estimated) of wastewater shipped
- 1,287 EPA assistance line calls received
- 1,079 visits to the Welcome Center
- 48 structure cleanings completed

### What to Expect Next Week

At the derailment site:

- East Taggart Street began [phased reopening](#) on Monday, September 25. The road remains closed during daytime operations, from 5:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Overnight, East Taggart Street is opened in both directions for all traffic to pass through the worksite. Safety controls remain, including: signage, reduced speed, and flaggers.
- 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.
- 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 about the soil characterization plan is on EPA's [Full Characterization Workplan](#) webpage.

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) continues replacing the bridge over Leslie Run in East Palestine. This work is not related to the East Palestine Derailment. For more information contact ODOT at 330-308-7817.