

# CLEANUP PLANNED FOR HAMBURG KAERCHER CREEK



**Hamburg, Pennsylvania**

**September 2019**

## Overview

EPA is working to clean up lead from two sites in the area: Hamburg Kaercher Creek and Price Battery. Since Summer 2019, EPA has begun preliminary work to clean up lead from the banks of Kaercher Creek. The clean up will protect the public from direct exposure to lead and prevent lead from moving into the creek.

## Kaercher Creek

- From the 1920s to the mid 1990s, a battery manufacturing facility operated in Hamburg. Battery casings were left throughout the Hamburg area. In 2001, EPA was notified of battery casings found along Kaercher Creek near the Hamburg Field House.
- From 2002 to May 2003, EPA assessed, sampled and cleaned up 5,470 feet of Kaercher Creek. Lead contaminated soil was removed. The remaining areas of contamination were covered with stone. EPA filled the excavated areas with clean soil and planted shrubs and trees.
- In 2017 during a routine assessment of the area, EPA again discovered exposed lead contaminated soil on the creek banks. This was due to erosion. Based on this discovery, EPA began developing a plan to clean up the Site to address contamination.
- In June 2019, EPA began to clean up 1,600 feet on the North bank of Kaercher Creek. Lead contaminated soil will be removed. EPA will fill the area with clean soil and larger stone to prevent erosion. EPA will return all properties to their original conditions.
- Major construction is expected to begin in **mid-September 2019** and continue for approximately one year.

## Price Battery

- The Price Battery Superfund Site is also along Kaercher Creek. Here, EPA is cleaning up lead contamination from the former Price Battery facility. This is a long-term cleanup that is being addressed through EPA's Remedial Program.
- The Price Battery Site cleanup has had various stages. EPA cleaned up 555 residential properties in Hamburg that were contaminated with lead. The former facility property was cleaned up in 2019. The final step of the Price Battery cleanup will be to address contaminated sediments in Kaercher Creek.
- For more information on the Price Battery Site, please visit: [www.epa.gov/superfund/pricebattery](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/pricebattery).

## What you will see

You may see increased truck traffic and heavy equipment such as excavators, dump trucks, dozers, etc. as EPA removes contaminated soil from the Site and brings in clean soil and large stone to fill the area.

### Questions? Contact us:

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This photo shows the location where battery casings were found on the Kaercher Creek banks. In the background, is the Hamburg Field House.