



Merrymeeting Road Drum Site New Durham, NH

U.S. EPA | HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM AT EPA NEW ENGLAND

THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND REMOVAL PROGRAM

responds to chemical, biological and radiological releases and large-scale national emergencies, including homeland security incidents. EPA conducts short term cleanups in the removal program when necessary to protect human health and the environment by either funding response actions directly or overseeing and enforcing actions conducted by potentially responsible parties.



SITE HISTORY

On May 12th, 2022, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) discovered twenty-one 55-gallon drums located at a residential property on Merrymeeting Road in New Durham, New Hampshire. On June 9, 2022, after an investigation of the site, NHDES requested assistance from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to address the abandoned drums. On July 22nd, 2022, EPA conducted a site walk with NHDES and the property owner. During the site visit, the drums were inventoried and, based off the labels, it is believed that they contain spray foam insulation. Based off the results of the site visit, EPA determined a time-critical removal action is warranted.

NEXT STEPS

EPA is coordinating with their contractors to determine the appropriate equipment and personnel needed to perform the removal of the drums. Additionally, a plan will be implemented to ensure the proper removal of the drums. The removal of the drums may include sampling of soils surrounding and below the drums and removal of any soil contamination if it is determined that a spill has occurred.

WHAT TO EXPECT

EPA and its contractors may be wearing protective clothing due to the potential direct contact with contaminants from the drums. During all activities where drums are being handled, air monitoring will be in place for the safety of site workers and the surrounding community. If monitors detect airborne contamination, actions will be taken to evaluate and address the issue. Heavy equipment may be brought to the property to secure and remove the drums. If the drums have spilled any of their contents, the contaminated soil will be removed and EPA will restore the area to its original condition. EPA will continue to update the neighborhood and local officials on progress at the site.

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MerrymeetingRoadDrum