



REMOVAL

Bliss Corner Neighborhood Site Dartmouth, MA

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

Since the summer of 2018, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), has been investigating historic dumping of waste material in the Bliss Corner neighborhood, located in the southern portion of Dartmouth, Massachusetts.

During the period beginning in September of 2019 and ending in June 2021, MassDEP and EPA sampled over 70 residential properties in the Bliss Corner Neighborhood. This sampling identified lead and polychlorinated biphenyls, better known as PCBs, as the main contaminants of concern.

In a letter dated August 23, 2021, MassDEP requested EPA support for a removal action at five residential properties in the Bliss Corner neighborhood where elevated levels of lead and/or PCBs have been identified in soil from 0-3 feet and which pose an imminent threat to human health and the environment. All five properties are cleaned and the EPA is working on expanding the scope of the removal action to include more properties in the Bliss Corner neighborhood this summer.

NEXT STEPS

EPA has begun work on site and plans to clean 7 properties throughout the Bliss Corner neighborhood.

EPA worked with the Town of Dartmouth to secure the command post, and staging area required to facilitate the cleanup work.

- 247 Russells Mills Road is a town-owned parcel that will be used as the command

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KEY CONTACTS:

AARON SHAHEEN

U.S. EPA Community Involvement
Coordinator

shaheen.aaron@epa.gov

617-918-1071

(c) 617-913-9181

JOHN MCKEOWN

U.S. EPA On-Scene Coordinator

mckeown.john@epa.gov

617-918-1793

(c) 617-312-5163

LORI WILLIAMSON

MassDEP, Southeast

Regional Office

lori.williamson@mass.gov

508-946-2803

TOLL-FREE CUSTOMER SERVICE

1-888-EPA-7341

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post and staging area. EPA will use this location to manage the project and for staging clean and contaminated materials, such as fill, gravel and topsoil. It will also house office trailers, store supplies and contaminated equipment and have vehicle parking. EPA will implement engineering controls, including covering the piles of clean materials, to control dust at this location. At the end of the cleanup, EPA will restore this property to its prior condition.

WHAT TO EXPECT

EPA is scheduled to begin removing materials from one of the 7 properties during the week of May 22, 2023. The upcoming work on the additional properties is planned to start in June and be completed by late fall. EPA is communicating directly with these residents, providing property-specific information and cleanup timelines. EPA and its contractors may be wearing protective clothing due to their direct contact with contaminated soil. Heavy equipment will be brought to the seven properties to remove contaminated soils and then back-fill them with clean soils. Work is expected to be completed during the summer or early fall of 2023. Working hours will be approximately Monday-Thursday 7 am to 5 pm. EPA will coordinate closely with the seven property owners regarding the details of work specific to their properties. EPA will continue to update the neighborhood and local officials on progress at the site.