

During the next couple of months, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will clean up the soil on several different properties located in Northport. EPA has determined that this cleanup is warranted to address a threat to people's health from exposure to lead in their soil. The owners of the properties have consented to give EPA access to their properties. EPA is working with property owners, the Mayor of Northport, and the Northport Town Council to schedule and conduct soil cleanup activities.

Cleanup Plans

In August, EPA will begin the soil cleanup in Northport. With the consent of property owners, cleanup will begin at residential properties and a common use area. The common use area includes the recreation/picnic area located at the corner of 3rd Street & Columbia Avenue. EPA estimates the entire cleanup to take 8 to 10 weeks. Work will be done during the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

While the cleanup is taking place, you will see construction equipment such as dump trucks, excavators, graders, and water trucks working in Northport. EPA and its contractors will make every effort to be a good neighbor while the project is under way.

Controlling Dust

EPA and its contractors will control dust where cleanup activities are taking place. They will apply water to surfaces and air monitoring instruments will be placed at the properties being cleaned up to ensure dust is controlled effectively.

Background Information

In Summer 2021, EPA offered voluntary soil sampling to property owners located within Northport town proper. Eligibility was limited to properties that had not been previously tested. For those properties where the landowner or property representative provided consent for voluntary soil testing, EPA visited the property, interviewed the landowner or property representative about property use, and collected soil samples for laboratory analysis. Soil sampling results were provided to the landowner as soon as they became available.

EPA analyzed lead and arsenic levels in sample results to determine which properties might need additional action. Due to funding constraints, EPA has prioritized areas for soil removal in 2022 based on where the soil sampling results showed lead levels near or above 700 ppm (parts per million). Properties above this threshold represent those with the highest concentrations and greatest potential risk to residents.

Cleanup actions will focus on lawns, gardens and play areas with a high likelihood of exposure to contaminated soil. The results of the 2021 removal site evaluation provide the information that supports the planned time-critical removal action.

For More Information

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the following people:

GENERAL INFORMATION:

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For information regarding the Upper Columbia River Site Remedial Investigation And Feasibility Study, please contact **Robert Tan**, EPA Remedial Project Manager • 206-553-2580 • tan.robert@epa.gov

If you need materials in another language or an alternative format, please contact Julie Congdon at 1-800-424-4372, Ext. 2752