

Updates from the East Palestine Train Derailment Emergency Response EAST PALESTINE, Ohio (February 9, 2024)

- Recently, EPA became aware of a report claiming that EPA failed to openly share data, particularly the waste-characterization data that was collected in February 2023 related to dioxin and furan (dioxin) compounds. Recent reporting on this issue is inaccurate and mischaracterizes EPA's response and commitment to transparency. [Read the full statement.](#)
- Normal operations of the wastewater treatment plant resumed two weeks ago, after the plant was temporarily shut down due to maintenance, worker safety, and operational adjustments. Winterization of the on-site hazardous wastewater treatment system is complete.
- Norfolk Southern has completed backfilling new stone and gravel at former Car Scrapping Area 4 north of Taggart Street near CeramFab. Residents should notice reduced truck traffic and traffic controls on East Taggart St. The speed limit will remain at 15 mph to ensure both community and worker safety while site restoration and other work continues.
- Field work to implement requirements of EPA's order to Norfolk Southern to conduct a qualitative assessment and collect sediment/sheen samples in Sulphur Run and Leslie Run is complete. EPA and Ohio EPA are reviewing Norfolk Southern's proposed approach to conduct additional stream cleanup based upon these assessments.
- The initial work in the underground culverts in East Palestine is complete. Drones and robots were used to assist workers as they accessed, surveyed, and monitored the culverts. The assessments of all 5 culverts are complete and 4 of the culverts have been cleaned. The fifth culvert will be cleaned during the upcoming additional stream cleanup phase in the previous bullet.
- EPA's Welcome Center is open by appointment only. To make an appointment, please call EPA's information line at 330-775-6517. Questions can also be sent to r5_eastpalestine@epa.gov.
- The most recent monthly East Palestine newsletter was released on January 10 and can be found [here](#). The next newsletter is expected to be released around February 14. Previous editions are available on EPA's East Palestine webpage, available at <https://www.epa.gov/east-palestine-oh-train-derailment>.

Response by the Numbers *(as of February 8)*

- 176,856 tons of solid waste shipped.
- 48,910,007 gallons of wastewater shipped.
- Confirmation sampling work is approximately 43% complete.

What to Expect Next Week

At the derailment site:

- Reduced truck traffic on East Taggart Street as backfilling work in Car Scrapping Area 4 wraps up.
- Continue site-wide confirmation sampling.