

---

# Agencies Prepare for Cleanup of Hazardous Materials in Barn

---

**Seerley Road Fire Site**  
Indianapolis, Indiana

March 2016

---

## You are invited

EPA will share information and answer questions about the Seerley Road cleanup during an open house:

**Monday, March 21**

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Seerley Creek Christian Church  
3550 S. Lynhurst Dr.

## For more information

If you have questions or comments about the Seerley Road cleanup, contact:

### Heriberto León

EPA Community Involvement  
Coordinator  
312-886-6163  
leon.heriberto@epa.gov

### Jason Sewell

EPA On-scene Coordinator  
317-308-3397  
sewell.jason@epa.gov

Call EPA toll-free, 800-621-8431,  
9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., weekdays

### Pam Thevenow

Marion County Public Health  
Department  
317-221-2266  
pthevenow@hhcorp.org

### Pat Colcord

Indiana Department of  
Environmental Management  
888-233-7745  
pcolcord@idem.in.gov

Online resource:

[www.epa.gov/in/seerley-road-fire-site](http://www.epa.gov/in/seerley-road-fire-site)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, working with local and state agencies, will soon begin cleaning up hazardous substances from a residential property where a barn caught fire in October. When work begins, residents may notice an increase in vehicle traffic coming and going from the site, including fire trucks.

## Cleanup plan

Actual cleanup work may take several weeks to complete, and will include:

- Continuing 24-hour site security until hazardous substances are removed from the property.
- Implementing safety plans to protect people who live nearby or work on the site.
- Air and water monitoring and sampling to ensure the safety and effectiveness of the cleanup.
- Re-packaging of hazardous waste and proper offsite disposal at an EPA-approved facility.

## What is known about the site?

A barn at 5453 Seerley Road in the southwest corner of Indianapolis burned to the ground on Oct. 20. Five drums believed to contain metal potassium were scorched and badly damaged. Metal potassium reacts with water to produce hydrogen, a gas that can easily catch fire, as well as potassium hydroxide, which can be an irritant and strongly caustic solid or liquid.

EPA was one of several agencies that responded to the fire, including Decatur Township Fire Department, Wayne Township Fire Department and hazmat team, Marion County Public Health Department and Indiana Department of Environmental Management.

Workers under EPA supervision stabilized the suspected metal potassium and set up 24-hour security. EPA contractors and the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department will maintain continuous security at the site until the cleanup is complete and the hazardous substances are sent to an EPA-approved disposal facility.

The cleanup will include re-packaging the suspected potassium to ensure safety during transportation.

There is a risk of fire in this process, so firefighting resources will be on standby at the site.



The aerial photo shows the location where the October 20, 2015 fire occurred on Seerley Road.