

EPA to Return to Niagara Falls Boulevard Site Niagara Falls, New York to Continue Cleanup Work

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EPA encourages public participation. If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the site, please contact one of the following:

Michael Basile
EPA Community Involvement
Coordinator
186 Exchange Street
Buffalo, NY 14204
716-551-4410
basile.michael@epa.gov
or
Peter Lisichenko, P.G.
EPA On-Scene Coordinator
347-276-6251
lisichenko.peter@epa.gov
or
access EPA's website:
https://www.epa.gov/ny/niagara
-county-radiation-removal-sites

UPDATE ON THE SITE

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will return to the Niagara Falls Boulevard site (9524 Niagara Falls Boulevard – bowling alley parking lot and adjacent 9540 building supply store parking lot) Niagara Falls, N.Y. in September 2018 to continue cleanup work. In the 1960s, a glass-like, granulated by-product called "slag" from former industrial facilities was used as fill material on both the bowling alley and building supply center properties prior to paving. The fill material contains low levels of radioactive elements, which may present a health risk over the long term. EPA will begin excavating material from the asphalt parking lot in September to reduce any risk to the public.

ASSESSMENT OF PROPERTIES

In 2013, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the New York State Department of Health conducted a review of the bowling alley and building supply center properties and ultimately referred the site to EPA for further assessment.

EPA also performed a gamma radiation survey of the Niagara Falls Boulevard property and collected soil samples. The occupied interior space of the bowling alley was found to be free of contamination. EPA detected some radiation above acceptable screening levels in several areas within the building supply center. These portions of the building were constructed on top of the asphalt parking lot. Occupied offices of the building supply center

were previously cleaned up. Now EPA is returning to excavate the parking lot.

PHASED APPROACH TO FIELD WORK

EPA began its work at the site in 2017 and conducted a short-term cleanup beneath the offices of the building supply center by excavating contaminated materials and replacing it with clean fill, installing a new concrete floor and other restoration activities. In addition, EPA excavated an area behind the parking lot that also had contaminated low level radioactive materials and replaced it with clean fill in preparation as a staging area for future activities.



In May 2017, EPA established a task force to restore the Superfund program to its rightful place at the center of the Agency's core mission to protect health and the environment.



EPA is returning to excavate the parking lot. EPA will excavate the low level radioactive material, stock-pile it in the staging area behind the two businesses in a secure area, and prepare it for off-site shipment to a regulated facility out of state. Clean fill will replace the excavated materials and the parking lot will be repaved. During all excavation activities, EPA will monitor the air to ensure that both workers and the public are protected. It is anticipated that this project should be completed in late 2019.



