

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Rolnick Property Site Community Update

EPA Superfund Division

June 2009

This community update provides you with information on the activities ongoing at the Rolnick Property site in Brewer, Maine.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (Maine DEP) are working together to clean soil contaminated with lead from a parcel at 151 South Main Street in Brewer. EPA's mission will be to remove or cover the soil at the site, which will eliminate any potential risk to human health and the environment.

Cleanup Process and Activities

- Beginning in July and continuing through the summer months this year, EPA will be closing off portions of the 4-acre parcel to ensure public safety while the clean-up is in progress.
- On-site workers will be wearing personal protective equipment while performing the cleanup. This level of protection includes impermeable white suits as well as respirators and is required by federal law.
- Dust will be controlled by spraying with water.
- Air monitoring will take place during the entire project to ensure contaminated dust does not migrate from contaminated areas.

How did the soil become contaminated?

Historic site use, as an auto salvage operation is the most likely source of the contamination.

Site Description & History

The property being cleaned up is owned and operated by a private party. The area of concern includes the southern and western edges of the property along the river. EPA determined that lead in surface and subsurface soils could pose a risk to human health through erosion, suspension into the air or ingestion.

Has EPA been here before?

This is the first EPA removal action in this location. In 2006, however, the state DEP cleaned soils contaminated with petroleum in the northeast corner of the property where the former gasoline station was located.

EPA asks for your cooperation as emergency personnel work to prevent public exposure to lead contaminated soil.

Please respect fences, work crews and signs to protect your health and safety.

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