

Environmental Fact Sheet



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10

January 2003

Colville Tribal Drum Site Nespelem, Washington

EPA to Remove Drums

Starting January 13, EPA will remove more than 250 drums and containers from the Colville Tribal Drum Site. The site is located 2.5 miles southwest of Nespelem, Washington at 63A Schoolhouse Loop Road. We are removing the drums and containers because they contain chemicals such as solvents, acids and oils that may be harmful to people, animals and soil. While removing the drums, EPA staff will wear protective suits. We expect the work to take about a week.



EPA will remove drums and containers from the Colville Tribal Drum Site.

Why is EPA Involved at This Site?

EPA decided to investigate the site due to a request, last Summer, by the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation. Tribal members were concerned that leaks from drums could harm tribal members. While the site is part of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the Tribes are unsure where all the drums came from. Some are from an abandoned laboratory.

For More Information:

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Visit the EPA Website:

www.epaosc.org/colvilletribaldrumremoval

What Was Found at the Site?

When EPA visited the site in July 2002, we inspected 278 containers and found many of them contain flammable or corrosive materials. Items EPA found include:

- 122 55-gallon drums containing flammable or combustible liquids
- 90 plastic containers, with over half containing hazardous substances
- About 40 containers of laboratory chemicals and paints
- Empty gasoline tanks
- Soils stained with oils and hazardous substances



After EPA removes drums and containers, the site will no longer pose a risk to people or the environment.



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

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COLVILLE TRIBAL DRUM SITE

Nespelem, Washington

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EPA PLANS TO REMOVE DRUMS