



REMOVAL

Rockland Warehouse Fire Site

Rockland, MA

U.S. EPA | HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM AT EPA NEW ENGLAND

THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND REMOVAL PROGRAM

responds to chemical, biological and radiological releases and large-scale national emergencies, including homeland security incidents. EPA conducts short term cleanups in the removal program when necessary to protect human health and the environment by either funding response actions directly or overseeing and enforcing actions conducted by potentially responsible parties.



SITE DESCRIPTION

In March 2017, a fire broke out at a large warehouse located at 67 Park Street in Rockland, MA. The fire engulfed the warehouse building. While firefighters worked to contain it, asbestos containing material (ACM) embers drifted and fell onto neighboring properties. EPA removed ACM from the backyards of 8 properties that abut the site. EPA also razed the remaining warehouse structure however residual debris contaminated with ACM, metals, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and semi volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) remained on site.

ACTIONS COMPLETED TO-DATE:

- In 2017, EPA razed the remaining the warehouse structure and debris which was disposed off-site and collected and removed hazardous wastes that remained in the unburned portion of the site;
- EPA collected ACM from 8 residential properties that abut the warehouse site. Twenty-two drums of ACM were shipped off site for disposal;
- MassDEP installed temporary, high-visibility fence at residential properties to limit access to areas impacted by building debris;
- MassDEP mobilized a contractor to the site to segregate nonimpacted debris from contaminated debris and installed a polyethylene ground cover to prevent migration of contaminants;
- In November 2018, EPA conducted a preliminary site assessment in which involved collection and sampling of debris on-site. Results of the analysis revealed that the site is contaminated with asbestos, metals, PAHs and SVOCs.

KEY CONTACTS:

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GENERAL INFO:

**TOLL-FREE
CUSTOMER SERVICE**
1-888-EPA-7341

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UPCOMING WORK/ WHAT TO EXPECT:

The purpose of this removal action is to remove the burned building debris that is contaminated with metals, PAHs, and friable asbestos and ACM. Additional confirmatory sampling will be conducted on the remaining footprint where the current building debris is spread. If contamination is detected, at least an additional six inches of soil will be excavated. Over the next two weeks the EPA On-Scene Coordinator and work crew will be mobilizing to the Site to begin preparing for the cleanup. During this time, heavy equipment including trucks and excavators will be moved on site. Residents may notice an increase in activity including the presence of work crews and movement of truck traffic on and off the site.

AIR MONITORING DURING CLEANUP ACTIVITIES AND DEBRIS REMOVAL:

EPA will set up monitoring stations around the perimeter of the site during the cleanup activities. If the air monitors show any airborne migration from the cleanup activities, work will be paused, conditions evaluated, and additional precautions will be implemented. As a control measure during cleanup activities, the debris will be saturated with water to minimize air borne migration of contaminants.

PROJECT SCHEDULE:

EPA estimates the duration of the cleanup activities to last approximately 2.5 months. The schedule is Monday through Thursday 7am- 5:30 pm. The Town of Rockland will be notified on any changes in the work schedule.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:

While EPA is conducting the removal, EPA and the Rockland Board of Health will continue to advise residents not to access the area during the removal as it is an active construction site.