

Background Information

The Former Cadillac Paint Site (aka Colonial Lacquer) is located at 409 Eliot Street in the southeastern portion of Ashland, Massachusetts. The Site is approximately 3 acres, and is bounded by Eliot Street on the north, Nancy Drive on the east, and residential property on the south and west. The Cadillac Paint Site was used for a paint manufacturing facility until about 1987. After 1987, when manufacturing operations closed down, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection oversaw a number of environmental investigations in the area. Currently, much of the Site is wooded, hiding buildings that are in various states of disrepair. In 2012, EPA's Brownfields Program performed an Assessment of the property, and discovered elevated levels of PCB's and heavy metals in the soil.

In 2014, a multi-agency team was formed to assess remediation and redevelopment options for the Site. The team consists of: US EPA, the town of Ashland, MassDEP and Mass Development. As a result of this partnership, the team of agencies were able to locate appropriate funding to remove contaminated soil from the property and prepare it for future redevelopment.

EPA Soil Cleanup

The US Environmental Protection Agency plans to begin to excavate and remove contaminated soil in the fall of 2015. Before excavation of contaminated soil begins, EPA and its contractors will clear the trees and brush from the site to gain access to the soil. Then, soil will be excavated, staged in covered soil piles and prepared to be transported to a permitted disposal facility. Then clean fill will be brought in to restore the property back to grade. Throughout this process heavy construction equipment will be used.

It is anticipated that the soil removal effort will take approximately 3 months, weather depending. EPA workers will be on site between the hours of 7am and 5pm daily. These hours may vary depending on weather and daylight. Workers doing the excavation and stockpiling will be wearing protective suits to protect themselves from physically contacting any contaminated soil. These are measures take to protect workers, who potentially work with contamination on a regular basis.

Air Monitoring

EPA will be monitoring the air while working. Monitoring stations will be set up around the perimeter of the site. If the monitors show any exceedances, then work will be paused and measures will be taken to evaluate and address the problem with the appropriate engineering controls.

Town of Ashland Update for Next Steps after Soil Cleanup

Once the contaminated soil is cleaned up, EPA's involvement will be complete. The Town of Ashland has hired a contractor to remain working on the property. Once EPA is done, they will be able to evaluate the environmental conditions remaining on the property. Then the Town, MassDEP and MassDevelopment will coordinate on the future steps for the property.

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