



## Cleanup Work to Begin in May 2017

Beginning next month, EPA will oversee the cleanup of the Central Chemical Site, located off Mitchell Avenue in Hagerstown, Maryland. The Central Chemical Site Group, a group of parties cooperating with the EPA and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), will be leading this cleanup work.

**This work will take place throughout 2017 and will include:**

- The clearing of trees and shrubs from the site;
- Construction of an access road;
- Measures to enhance erosion control;
- Demolition of remaining concrete building foundations and related subsurface structures;
- Permanently closing specific monitoring wells; and,
- Construction of a treatment building and four extraction wells.

**The work mentioned above will lay the groundwork for the soil cleanup remedy, expected to begin in 2018 and be completed in 2019. This remedy will include:**

- Operation of the groundwater containment and treatment system;
- In-Situ Soil Solidification (ISS), which binds and traps waste into a solid block of material. *In this case, material within the former waste lagoon will be solidified through this method;*



- Excavation of contaminated soils outside the lagoon area;
- Once excavated, contaminated soils will be consolidated and placed atop the solidified material; and,
- This soil will then be covered with a low permeability cap.

## Frequently Asked Questions About Upcoming Work

***What precautions will be in place to make sure I am safe?***

Several safeguards will be put in place to ensure the community is protected during this work. One of these safeguards is the construction of a decontamination pad. This pad will be used to clean equipment and vehicles before they leave the property throughout the cleanup work. Additionally, air monitoring will be performed to ensure that activities do not create airborne matter that would present a threat to the health and safety of workers and the community.

***Will my drinking water be impacted by this construction work?***

No, Hagerstown residents receive their drinking water from the municipal water supply which pumps water from the Potomac River.

***Who can I contact about questions or concerns related to the cleanup work?***

Please feel free to contact EPA's Community Involvement Coordinators (see below), or the Central Chemical Superfund Site Cleanup Hotline at 1(800) 242-9317.



## **Brief Site Background**

Beginning in the 1930s, the Site functioned as a blending and packaging facility for agricultural pesticides and fertilizers. Pesticides and fertilizers manufactured at other locations were blended at the Site with inert materials to produce commercial-grade products. Most of the pesticide product blending ceased in 1965. All operations at the plant stopped in 1984.

The buildings were demolished during the Spring/Summer of 2005. Waste materials from the blending processes, including waste generated during the cleaning of the processing equipment, were disposed on-site.

The Site was added to the EPA's National Priorities List (Superfund List) in September 1997.

*For detailed information about the Site, please visit: [www.epa.gov/superfund/centralchemical](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/centralchemical)*

*To learn more about EPA's Superfund Program, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund>*

## **Questions? Contact us!**

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