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# EPA Plans Removal of Hazardous Materials

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**Greenup Recycling and Auction House**  
Greenup, Illinois

May 2011

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## For more information

These Greenup site team members are available to answer questions or provide more information about the cleanup:

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Community Involvement  
Coordinator  
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8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., weekdays

EPA Chicago office:  
77 W. Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60604

This fact sheet will be available at  
the site work trailer as well as the  
Greenup Municipal Hall.

### Website:

[www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/greenup/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/greenup/index.html)

Over the next three to four weeks, contractors under the supervision of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will be removing hazardous materials left behind when the Greenup Recycling and Auction House burned down last year. The EPA will remove asbestos and lead from the property at 100 E. Illinois St.

## Removal authority

Because the state and local governments do not have the resources for a cleanup, Illinois officials asked the EPA to conduct what is called in legal terms a “time-critical removal action.” The EPA will use its authority under federal law to perform the cleanup work and pay the costs. The Agency determined the site might present “an imminent and substantial endangerment to public health, welfare or the environment.” The fire left the buildings in rubble, and the location is unfenced and open to trespassers. Additionally, there are indications that asbestos from the building debris may have blown off-site.

## Work plan

Here is what residents can expect to see around the site as cleanup work begins in late May and continues for the next three to four weeks. Contractors working for the EPA will set up fencing around the entire site. They will then be moving in equipment such as loaders, forklifts and an office trailer. Seven or eight people, who at times may be wearing



*The EPA determined the fire debris at the Greenup Recycling and Auction House site at 100 E. Illinois St. posed a threat to public health and safety because of hazardous waste containing asbestos and lead. Cleanup work at the site will start in late May.*

protective suits and respirators, will be working on the site to remove and dispose of the building debris safely.

In order to control dust, residents may see crews spraying water on the debris. Additionally, air samplers will be set up to monitor off-site for dust and debris potentially stirred up by the cleanup work. Residents may see additional truck traffic in the area. A safety plan will help the EPA reduce traffic risks.

### **Site history**

Greenup Recycling Inc. stored and packaged plastics for recycling at the warehouse on-site. Greenup Auction House refurbished and stored antique furniture

in a building on the property. An alleged arson blaze destroyed both structures on May 19, 2010. The site covers the former Ettelbrick Shoe factory, which operated from the 1920s to the 1980s.

The fire destroyed the businesses and left only rubble and building debris at the site, which is unfenced and unprotected. The Illinois EPA asked EPA to assume cleanup responsibility for the location in late August 2010.



*Residents may see cleanup workers wearing protective gear while they clean up debris at the Greenup Recycling and Auction House site. Work will start in late May and continue three or four weeks.*