



Syncon Resins

South Kearny, NJ

Site Description

The Syncon Resins site encompasses approximately 15 acres in a heavily industrialized area of northern New Jersey, on the peninsula formed by the Passaic and Hackensack rivers. EPA added the site to the National Priorities List in 1983. The site once housed an industrial facility run by Syncon Resins, which produced paints, varnishes and related products. Many of the ingredients and final byproducts were toxic liquids stored onsite in various types of storage tanks and lagoons. Large quantities of the waste leaked, contaminating the groundwater, soil and buildings. The storage vessels and tanks also remained heavily contaminated. The closest residential area is in Newark, which lies one mile to the west of the site.

Current Site Status and Cleanup Actions to Date

- In 1982-1984, the State of New Jersey removed all of the exposed 55-gallon drums from the site.
- In 1986, EPA issued a cleanup plan to: 1) remove storage tanks and vessels' contents for off-site disposal; 2) decontaminate buildings and tank structures; 3) excavate lagoon liquids, sediments and contaminated surface soil for off-site disposal; 4) install a cover over the site allowing natural flushing of underlying soil and groundwater contaminants; 5) collect and treat contaminated water from the shallow aquifer; and 6) undertake supplemental studies to evaluate methods to enhance the effectiveness of the remediation system to address contaminated soils.
- In 2000, EPA issued a second cleanup plan, which included a cleanup alternative consisting of excavation and drainage of contaminated soils, buried debris removal and installation of a connecting drainage layer.
- In 2007, at the request of the State of New Jersey, EPA assumed lead responsibilities for site activities.
- In 2010, EPA issued an amended cleanup plan after completing a final focused feasibility study.
- In 2012, EPA approved the remedial design plan.
- EPA has determined that all unacceptable human exposure pathways have been eliminated, and therefore, under current conditions, human exposure is under control site wide.

Unfunded Action

Fiscal Year 2014 work that was not funded involved soil excavation, treatment and disposal.

Current Funding Status

To date, EPA has spent approximately \$18.8 million on construction work at the site.

For more information on this site, please read [the Syncon Resins site information](#) on the Region 2 Superfund web site.