



SEPTEMBER 2025

The Cleanup Plan

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency finalized its plan to address groundwater contaminated with pentachlorophenol, or PCP, light non aqueous phase liquid, or LNAPL, and metals at the Sherwin-Williams/Hilliards Creek Superfund site in Gibbsboro, Camden County, New Jersey.

For more information about these contaminants, please visit: www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs.

The EPA will gather additional data to create a targeted treatment plan that uses microorganisms to break down contamination. This treatment will enhance the the natural processes that are already breaking down contamination over time to clean up the groundwater. The EPA will also restrict the future groundwater use in the impacted area and will monitor the groundwater to ensure that the treatment is working.

This approach will cleanup the groundwater so that it can be a source of drinking water in the future.



Figure 1. Map showing the site.

Past Activities

The Sherwin-Williams/Hilliards Creek Superfund site is being cleaned up in four different stages, called Operable Units, or OUs.

Operable Unit 1: Addresses the cleanup of contaminated soil on residential properties. The EPA completed cleanup work in February 2022 and there is ongoing monitoring of the area.

Operable Unit 2: Addresses the contamination at the former manufacturing facility. Cleanup work began in early 2024 and will continue in phases over the following years.

Operable Unit 3: Addresses the groundwater contamination associated with the former manufacturing facility. This is the area that this September 2025 plan addresses.

Operable Unit 4: Addresses the contamination of sediment in Silver Lake, Bridgewood Lake, Kirkwood Lake, Hilliards Creek. The EPA chose a cleanup plan for this operable unit in October 2021 and cleanup work began July 2025.



Figure 2. Map of the different areas of the site.

Site Background

The property was first developed in the early 1800s as a sawmill, and later a grain mill. In 1851, John Lucas & Company purchased the property and converted the mill into a paint and varnish manufacturing facility. In 1930, Sherwin-Williams purchased the Lucas company and expanded operations at the facility. The manufacturing facility closed in 1977.

When the paint and varnish manufacturing facility was operating, the facility dumped waste directly into Hilliards Creek and improperly stored waste in tanks, drums, and unlined waste lagoons, leading to widespread soil, sediment, surface water, and groundwater contamination.

The facility also dumped waste in two different areas, the Route 561 Dump site and the U.S. Avenue Burn Superfund site. These areas are not part of the Sherwin-Williams/Hilliards Creek Superfund site, but they do have related contamination. These sites are referred to as the Sherwin-Williams sites and the EPA manages them together because they are related cleanup projects.

EPA Contact Information

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THE SUPERFUND REMEDIAL PROCESS

ASSESSMENT



Discovery of Contamination



Preliminary Assessment



Site Inspection



National Priorities List (NPL)
Site Listing

CHARACTERIZATION



Remedial Investigation/
Feasibility Study &
Proposed Plan

SELECTION OF A CLEANUP PLAN



Record of Decision

CLEANUP



Remedial Design



Remedial Action

POST-CONSTRUCTION



Operation and
Maintenance



NPL Deletion

Community involvement and planning for a site's redevelopment are integral to the entire process

Five-Year Reviews